

Lloyd's MIU GLOSSARY

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AB (Aktiebolag)	In Sweden this is a stock company that can be either publicly traded or privately held. In Finland, an AB company is privately held only.
AG (Aktiengesellschaft)	This is a 'stock corporation' in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. All have minimum share capital requirements. In Germany, all publicly traded companies must be styled AG. However in all three countries, an AG can be private or public.
ANS (Ansvarlig Selskap)	A trading partnership in Norway.
ARA	These are the ports in the Antwerp-Rotterdam-Amsterdam range.
AS (Aksjeselskap)	in Norway and Germany) - this is a 'stock company', used in Denmark, Norway, Czech Republic, Estonia and Slovakia, where the owners have limited liability. The style is also used in Turkey for limited liability companies. Note that the Danish convention is to present the extension as A/S, whereas the other countries use AS.
ASA (Allmennaksjeselskap)	This is a Norwegian 'stock company'. It is the style used by all public companies, though a private company can also be an ASA.
ASBA II	The codename given to a standard form voyage charter party published by The Association of Shipbrokers and Agents (ASBA) for tankers in 1984; originally known as ASBATANKVOY.
ATL (actual constructive loss)	The loss of a ship or goods when it is completely destroyed by a peril insured against, or so damaged that it ceases to be the thing insured.
Abt	About
Acid Test Ratio	Current assets less stock divided by current liabilities. This is a tougher measurement of liquidity (see below) in that the subtracted stocks are normally the slowest moving of current assets.
Act of God	The cause attributed to a casualty when the casualty occurs without human contribution and which could not be foreseen or averted by reasonable precautionary measures.
Aframax	Any tanker with deadweight just under 80,000 tons.
Aldis	A powerful daylight signalling lamp.
American Bureau of Shipping	The American Classification Society or ABS for short.
Anch	anchored
ApS (Anpartsselskab)	A limited liability corporation in Denmark.
Ar	arrived
Arbitration	This is a way of settling disputes which is usually binding on the parties involved.
Automatic Identification System	AIS for Ship is an electronic ship identification system for ship to ship collision avoidance, provides information and status of ships and their cargo onboard to other ships or shore parties and vessel traffic system in ports. The AIS can be integrated to ship navigational equipment onboard, e.g. radar or electronic charts system to indicate the ships in vicinity. The system also transmits information to the shore, a Ship to Shore information. This is extremely useful for Vessel Traffic Systems (VTS), guiding the ship in congested areas, but equally important for the Marine Rescue Co-ordination Centres (MRCC) in giving actual updated information on all ships participating in a rescue action. Compiled information from larger areas can give the authorities basic data for planning of fairways and routing systems. The information provided by AIS consists of the information sent between the ships and to and from the shore which comes in four categories: 1. Static information: ships standard details for identification purpose, e.g. the MMSI number, IMO number, call sign and name, length and beam, position for GNSS antenna, type of ship 2. Dynamic information: updated continuously at a rate varying from two seconds to three minutes depending upon traffic situation, e.g. position, time, speed, course over ground, heading, navigational status and rate of turn. The faster the ship runs, the more it has to update its position 3. Voyage related information: ships actual draft and cargo type e.g. dangerous cargo (DG), destination and estimated time of arrival (ETA) 4. Safety related information: short messages on weather conditions and navigational warnings transmitted from shore to ship
aa	Vessels are fitted with diesel engines unless indicated by the following abbreviations:
abaft	Aft of something or towards the stern of a ship.
abandon ship	Get away from a ship when there is a danger of ship sinking.
abeam	On the side of a ship which is perpendicular to the ships fore and aft line
able seaman	A senior and experienced seaman in deck department who assists the officer on watch, steers the ship and keeps gangway watch; one grade higher than the beginning grade of ordinary seaman; AB for short; AB was used apparently instead of AS to avoid confusion with OS which stands for ordinary seaman.
aboard	On board; in or on a ship

abreast	Side by side; abeam of.
accommodation	Spaces in ship used for mess rooms, sleeping rooms, lavatories and recreation.
accommodation ladder	A retractable ladder with collapsible handrails for safe access to and from ship; hinged to a platform attached to ships sides, usually available at port and starboard sides.
accumulator	1. an electric storage cell or battery; 2. container for storing liquid and gases at constant pressure, serving as a reservoir
ad valorem freight	Freight calculated as a percentage of the value of the goods.
adiabatic	Change of volume and pressure of a gas in which there is no heat gained or lost by the gas.
adrift	Not fastened to anything and float freely.
advance	One of the parameters for measuring the turning performance of a ship, it is the distance travelled from the instant the rudder is put over to the point at which she is on her new course; measured along a line parallel to the original direction of motion.
advance freight	Freight that is paid in advance when the cargo is loaded on board rather than at the end of the destination; the proportion of freight payable is mutually agreed beforehand in the charter party.
adventure	In marine insurance, is any undertaking or voyage or duration that exposes the property to maritime perils.
affreightment	Chartering or hiring of a ship to carry cargo.
afloat	Floating on water.
aft	Behind the ship; near or around the stern or towards the stern of the ship opposite of fore.
after perpendicular	Represented by a vertical line at the intersection of the designed load waterline and the after side of the rudder post, or the centreline of the rudder stock where there is no rudder post; AP in short.
aftpeak	The enclosed space immediately forward of the sternpost and aft of the aftermost watertight bulkhead; usually used as ballast or fresh water tank; also known as afterpeak compare forepeak.
agent	One who acts for another, as in a shipping agent who serves the shipowners in a foreign port by looking after the ships interests; some of the duties include arranging for pilotage, crew change, etc.; also known as port agent or ships agent.
aground	Of a ship resting on the ground in shallow water.
air draught	The vertical distance measured from the ships waterline to the highest point on the ship; usually comes into consideration when the ship has to sail under overhead bridges in the river.
air-cushion vehicle	A ship which uses air cushion created by powerful fans to lift and support its full weight allowing it to reduce the hull resistance when moving through water; an example is hovercraft; ACV in short.
alongside	Close to the side of a ship, wharf or jetty.
alternator	A mechanical machine that produces alternating current (a.c.) when driven by a prime mover; it has two major parts - the rotating part called rotor consists of pairs of magnetic poles, and a stationary part called stator consists of fixed coils of wire; also known as ac generator.
amidships	In or near the middle of a ship, whether longitudinally or transversely.
ammeter	An instrument for measuring the electric current in ampere.
ampere	The unit for measuring electric current; also known as amp.
anchor	A device which is attached to anchor chain at one end and lowered into the sea bed to hold a ship in position; it is designed to grip the bottom when it is dragged by the ship trying to float away under the influence of wind and current; usually made of heavy casting or casting.
anchorage	A place suitable for ships to anchor.
anemometer	An instrument for measuring the wind velocity or wind force.
angle of attack	Angle formed by the intersection of the fluid flow direction towards a foil with a straight line drawn from the foils leading edge to its trailing edge.
annealing	A heat treatment process which serves to soften and relieve internal stresses; the metal is first heated to a certain temperature and allowed to cool down slowly to achieve the desired effect.
anode	An electrode having a positive charge, opposite of cathode.
anodising	Process of producing a thicker natural oxide film on the surface of aluminium; also known as anodic oxidation.
anti-foam agent	Additive used to minimise the foaming tendency of petroleum products.
anti-oxidant	A type of chemical additive which is used to dissolve oxidation products formed in fuel oil.
anti-wear agent	Additives used to form thin and continuous films on heavily loaded parts to prevent metal-to-metal contact.
antifouling	Describes a desirable paint quality that prevents the growth of marine organisms such as barnacles in the underwater portion of a ships hull.
appendages	Any part of a ship that protrudes out of the main hull form such as rudder, bilge keels, etc.
aromatics	One group of hydrocarbons with benzene as parent; their derivatives tend to have sweet or aromatic odors.

arrived ship	A ship is considered arrived and the laytime can commence when certain conditions specified in the charter party are fulfilled, e.g. reach the designated position for loading or discharging, vessel is ready in all respects for cargo operation and notice of readiness properly given.
ash	A powdery residue formed after combustion by the burning of some additives especially the conventional detergent type.
ash modifier	Chemical additive used to reduce the effect of ash or impurities such as vanadium, sulphur and sodium in post-combustion conditions.
ashore	On shore; on the land.
aspect ratio	The ratio of height to average width of a foil or sail.
asphaltenes	Hard and brittle particles of asphalt which are highly aromatic and combustible.
assured	One who insures a property against loss.
astern	Behind; in the after portion of a ship.
athwart	Across; from side to side; transversely.
athwartship	Across a ship transversely; at right angle to the fore and aft centreline.
auto-ignition	The ignition of a combustible material when its temperature has been raised to a point at which self-sustained combustion occurs; no spark or flame is necessary to initiate the ignition; also known as self-ignition.
automation	Automatic control systems, without need of human intervention.
autopilot	A device used for automatically steering a ship.
auxiliary boiler	A boiler for raising steam to work the auxiliary machinery.
auxiliary engine	Engine other than for propulsion purpose; usually refers to electrical power generating diesel engine.
auxiliary machinery	All machinery other than that needed for main propulsion.
average	In marine insurance, it means a partial loss; in the event of a claim, there are two types of average namely general average and particular average.
average adjuster	One with in-depth knowledge of maritime insurance law, and who calculates and adjusts the loss and expenditure between the interested parties in a general average claim.
awash	Washed over by water; at or slightly below the water level.
aweigh	Describes an anchor which has been lifted off the sea bottom and has its weight fully taken by the anchor chains.
awning	A canvas covering spread over a ship's deck to protect from the weather.
awning deck	A lightly constructed deck erected above upper deck or main deck to provide shelter against the sun and rain.
BV (Besloten Vennootschap)	This is a limited liability company that can be registered in Belgium, the Netherlands or the Netherlands Antilles.
BVBA (Besloten Vennootschap met Beperkte Aansprakelijkheid)	This is a private limited company in Belgium only. The French language equivalent is an SPRL (Societe Privee a Responsabilite Limitee).
Bank Guarantees	Here, the bank will compensate the seller in the event that the buyer fails to honour its obligations. Similarly, a Letter of Credit is a document issued by a bank that essentially acts as an irrevocable guarantee of payment to a beneficiary.
Bd	bound
Beaufort notation	A code used to express weather conditions tersely by a combination of letters of alphabet, eg r for rain, c for cloudy, etc.
Beaufort wind scale	A system using numbers from 0 to 12 to express wind speed; devised by Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort in early nineteenth century and slightly revised over the years.
Bonjean curve	A curve formed by plotting transverse sectional areas measured up to each waterline against a vertical axis representing the waterline; thus, the horizontal distance measured from the curve to the vertical axis gives the area of the section from the baseline to that particular waterline; usually sets of curves are obtained for each section; these curves facilitate immersed volume to be obtained for waterlines that are not parallel to baseline.
Broker	An independent intermediary. A ship broker can negotiate freight contracts between owners and charterers, as well as the sale and purchase of ships. Bunker brokers are employed by the buyer of the fuel, but traditionally paid by the seller. A bunker broker has no title to the product bought/sold. An S&P (sale and purchase) broker brings the buyer and seller together.
Bureau Veritas	The French Classification Society or BV for short
Butterworth cover	A small, hinged cover for closing a vertical trunk way used by Butterworth tank-cleaning machine; several trunk ways are erected on the main deck of tanker for each cargo tank depending on the tank size.
backstay	Stay or rope that is secured abaft of the mast to support the latter from bending forward.
backup plate	Plate used behind a welded joint to prevent burning through during welding.
backwind	The wind which is deflected from a sail ahead onto the sail abaft it.

balanced rudder	A rudder in which the turning stock is not on the leading edge, but close to the rudders centre of pressure; about one-quarter abaft of the leading edge; since the center of pressure shifts as the rudder is turned, no rudder can be fully balanced for all rudder angles; hence a rudder is considered balanced when it can maintain so for about 15 degrees.
bale capacity	The cubic capacity of a cargo hold measured from the inside of of the cargo battens, frames, bulkhead stiffeners or spar ceilings, i.e. the spaces between the frames are not filled; the bale capacity is generally less than the holds grain capacity; sometimes known as Bale Cubic.
ballast bonus	Money payable by time charterer to shipowner at the end of the charter period to compensate for the ballast trip taken from the port of redelivery of the ship to the next port of loading; BB in short.
ballast leg	That part of a ships voyage during which she is not carrying any cargo and sailing in ballast.
ballasting	Act of taking in ballast; usually refers to pumping in of sea water into the ships ballast tanks.
barge	A large boat with a flat bottom, used for carrying of goods on rivers, canals, shallow waters, etc.
barometer	An instrument for measuring atmospheric pressure.
barque	Sailing ship with three or more masts and sails; its aftermost mast is rigged in the fore and aft direction, and the other masts are square-rigged.
barrel	The unit for measuring volume of petroleum and its products; 1 barrel is equivalent to 42 US Gallons or approximately 35 Imperial Gallons or 159 litres.
baseline	A fore and aft reference line taken at the upper surface of the flat keel plate along the centreline; sometimes written as base line.
bathymetry	The measurement of deep sea soundings.
batten	Long and narrow strip of wood used for various purposes, e.g. hatch battens for holding down tarpaulins covering hatches, or in cargo hold to keep cargo away from the ships sides see spar ceiling
beam	1. the width of a ship; 2. of direction, at right angle to ships fore and aft line; 3. structural member that supports plating.
beam knee	A bracket connecting a deck beam and frame; usually triangular in shape.
beam wind	Wind blowing across the ships sides.
bearing	1. a specially designed part that supports and allows a rotating shaft to run without damage by reducing friction; 2. the direction of an object with reference to a ship, observer or another object
bedplate	A base plate or structure upon which a machine is mounted.
berth	1. a cabin or a place to sleep in a ship; 2. a place for mooring a ship in port or anchoring.
bilge	The curved part of a ships underwater body where the bottom plating turn towards side shell plating.
bilge keel	Fin or long strip of plate attached to the turn of the bilge and run in the fore and aft direction from 25% to 75% of ships length at both sides of a ships underwater body; bilge keels serve to reduce the rolling motion at sea.
bilge pump	Pump for pumping out bilge water.
bilge strake	Strake at the turn of the bilge linking the bottom plating to the side plating.
bilge water	Dirty water that collects in a ships bilges.
bilge well	A small drain well or tank which collects bilge water; usually located at the after end of the compartments.
bilged	State of a ship when she runs aground and takes in water through her damaged hull.
bilges	Spaces next to the bilge strake for collecting water.
binnacle	A stand, of brass or non-magnetic material, for holding a compass as well as illuminating and compensating units.
bitt	Vertical cylindrical shaped fitting made of steel and securely attached to deck; usually in pair and used for fastening mooring ropes or towing lines in a figure of eight; also known as bollard
bitter end	The last link in the inboard end of an anchor chain which is secured to the chain locker.
bitumen	A non-volatile, black or brown substance derived from refinery processes; can be viscous or solid depending on its temperature; has waterproofing and adhesive properties.
blending	Thorough mixing of two compatible fuels having different properties to produce an intermediate fuel of certain properties.
block coefficient	the ratio of the underwater volume of a ship to the volume of a rectangular block having the length, breadth and draught of the ship $CB = \frac{\text{immersed volume}}{L \times B \times H}$
boatswain	A supervisor of the seamen; one grade higher than able seaman; sometimes abbreviated as bosn or bosun.
boatswains chair	A piece of rectangular board on which a man can sit when working aloft; the board with holes at the sides is suspended by rope arrangement.

body plan	A drawing showing the end view of a ship in two half-transverse sections sharing a common centreline; since the sections are generally symmetrical, the right-hand side of the centreline represents the ship as seen from ahead and the left-hand side as seen from astern; the series of transverse sections are cut at regular frame spacing from forward to aft and appear piled one on top of one another.
boiler	A cylindrical vessel in which the water can be heated to produce steam at high pressure.
boiler mountings	Fittings on a boiler that are required for its safe and efficient operation such as safety valves, water level sight glasses, pressure gauges, blow down valve, etc.
bollard	Large circular post fitted at wharf for making fast mooring ropes; usually in pairs; same as bitt
boom	A long, round pole hinged to a mast and projecting outboard; the free end is supported by a wire rope and block arrangement from the top of the mast.
boot top	The portion of a ships outer side shell plating surface lying between the light and full load waterlines; depending on the loading condition of the ship, this portion may be partially or fully immersed in water; sometimes written as boottop.
boss	Of propeller, the central part to which propeller blades are attached and through which the shaft end passes.
bossing	The curved protruding portion of the ships shell plating that surrounds and supports the propeller shaft.
bottom	The underwater portion a ship.
bottom end bearing	bearing at big end of connecting rod in a reciprocating engine which fits over the crank pin of a crankshaft
bottom plating	Generally the shell plating of a ship lying between the two bilge turns other than the keel.
bourdon gauge	A commonly used pressure measuring device which senses pressure using a bourdon tube with an oval cross section that is curved over approximately 270o; one end of the tube is linked to the pressure vessel to be measured and the other end is sealed and free; when there is a change of pressure, the tube tends to change its sectional shape to circular and in doing so, it tends to straighten; the resulting movement of the free end is used to move a pointer over a scale; also known as bourdon pressure gauge.
bow	The forward end of a ships hull; based on the different cross sectional shape, a ship may be described as having a rake bow, clipper bow, spoon bow, Maier-form, bulbous bow, etc. opposite of stern
bow rake	The fore and aft inclination of the stem at the forward end of the vessel.
bow thruster	A small propeller situated in an athwartship tunnel in the underwater hull of a ship; usually located near the bow, the side thrust created by the running propeller improves manoeuvrability, especially during berthing.
bowse	To pull downward on a rope or fall.
bowsprit	Spar projecting forward from the stem.
boxship	Popular term for containership.
brake horsepower	The power available at the shaft of an engine after minusing the frictional losses in the running component of the engine but before passing through reduction gears or other transmission devices; for direct-connected diesel engine, this power is same as shaft horsepower; this is measured using a brake which gives the name; bhp for short.
break bulk cargo	Various kinds of goods packed in miscellaneous forms such as boxes, bales, drums, etc.
break bulker	General cargo ship that carries break bulk cargo.
breakwater	Of ship, inclined and stiffened plate structure on a weather deck to break and deflect the flow of water coming over the bow.
breast hook	A triangular horizontal plate joining port and starboard stringers together behind the stem.
breast line	A mooring rope deployed and oriented such that it is approximately perpendicular to the ships fore and aft line.
bridge	An elevated superstructure having a clear view forward and at each side, and from which a ship is steered.
bridle	Any fairly short length of rope secured at both ends.
brigantine	Sailing ship with square-rigged foremast, and fore and aft rigged main mast.
broken stowage	cargo space which cannot be utilised due to the type and nature of cargo loaded or structural interferences in the cargo hold
brokerage	Commission or fee charged by the broker for his services.
bulk cargo	Cargo such as oil, coal, iron ore, grain, etc. that is loaded in bulk and not in bags, packages or containers.
bulk carrier (bulker)	A type of ship designed to carry bulk cargo.
bulk oil	Oil carried in cargo tanks forming an integral part of a ship, i.e. not in drums, etc.
bulkhead	Transverse or longitudinal vertical partition or "wall" for dividing the internal space of a hull into various compartments; may be built of stiffened steel plates or corrugated plates; bulkheads may be watertight, oiltight, gastight, or non-watertight

bulkhead deck	Uppermost deck to which the transverse watertight bulkheads are carried.
bull wire	The wire used for pulling the hatch covers closed or open; the wire is being led by a winch or crane.
bulwark	Shell plating about one metre in height built around the outboard edge of upper deck from forecastle to poop to protect men and cargo against rough seas.
bumboat	A boat that is used to carry supplies, stores, provision, etc to ships.
bunk	Built-in bed on a ship.
bunker	a compartment for the storage of fuel oil used by the ships machinery
bunkering	act of taking in bunkers onboard the ship
bunkers	fuel such as oil stored in the bunker and used for running ships machinery
buoy	a floating object secured to the bottom of a sea, river, etc to mark a position which a ship should avoid, change course, etc.
buoyancy	the upthrust given by the water which keeps a ship afloat; the difference between the vertical component of the hydrostatic pressure acting on the ships hull and the weight of the ship
bursting plate	A pressure relief device to protect an equipment from over-pressure, eg to protect air compressors cooler casing from sudden rise in pressure due to bursting of the compressed air carrying tubes; also known as bursting disc.
butt	Joint between the ends of plates placed in the fore and aft line.
butt weld	The joining of two plates by welding along the seam of their butt joints.
CODMAE	stands for Combined Diesel Mechanical And Electric; refers to one of the hybrid propulsion configurations
CTL (constructive total loss)	the loss may be considered constructive when the cost of salvage or repair for the damage occurred exceeds the insured value; in this case, the assured may go for a partial loss and retain ownership of the subject, or go for actual total loss and leave the subject to the insurer.
CV (Commanditaire Venootschap)	this is a limited partnership, ie one partner must have unlimited liability, whereas liability for the others will be limited.
Capesize	A very large bulk carrier with deadweight above 150,000 tons - unable to transit Suez Canal and therefore have to sail round the Cape of Good Hope to and from Europe.
Capital Employed	This is long-term liabilities and equity - it shows the long-term capital being used to run the business.
Celsius	the measurement unit for temperature where 0oC is the freezing temperature and 100oC is the boiling point for water; also known as Centigrade
Charley Noble	refers to the galleys smoke pipe; named after an English sea captain who was well known for setting a high standard in the polish of the brass fittings aboard his ship
China Classification Society	the Chinese Classification Society or CCS for short
Clause paramount	clause inserted in a contract of carriage to indicate that the Hague Rules or Hague-Visby Rules are applicable to the bills of lading issued; also known as Paramount clause
Cld	cleared
Commercial management	a commercial manager takes care of the employment of a vessel on behalf of a shipowner, through either a timecharter arrangement or a voyage charter arrangement.
Conrodson Carbon Residue	measures the tendency of a fuel to form carbon deposits under high temperature conditions in the absence of air
Corporation	commonly used in the US.
Coulomb	the unit of electrical quantity and is equal to one ampere per second
Credit	credit is the means whereby goods or services or a loan of money may be made available today in return for payment at a future date. It enables a producer to bridge the gap between the production and sale of goods and a consumer's requirement to purchase goods out of future income. In shipping, the credit period the owners receive from marine suppliers gives them time to load their vessels and collect their freight in order to pay their marine supply invoices.
Creditworthiness	this describes the company's ability to meet its payment obligations.
Current Ratio	current assets divided by current liabilities. This gives an indication of how capable the company is of meeting its short term payment obligations. The higher the ratio, the more liquid the company.
cabin	A compartment on board a ship designated as living quarters for persons.
cable	A rope or chain attached to anchor.
cable length	Distance equal to one-tenth of a nautical mile, i.e. approximately 608 feet; in other units, it is equivalent to about 100 fathoms or 200 yards.
caboose	Old name for galley.
calendering	Process of pressing a sail cloth between hot steel rollers under high pressure to flatten it and make it more durable.
call sign	A combination of alphabets and numbers allocated to ships and shore stations for identification purposes.
calm	Of the sea, without wind and large waves; still

calorific value	Amount of heat released by the complete combustion of unit weight of fuel; usually expressed in calories per gram or British Thermal Unit (BTU) per pound.
camber	The athwartship upward rise of the weather deck from both sides towards the centreline of the ship; this arched form helps to direct water on deck to the sides where it can be drained off by scuppers. compare sheer
cant beam	Deck supporting beam arranged in fan-like shape in the fore and aft ends of a ship, eg ice breaker.
cant frame	A frame which supports the structure at a plane that is not perpendicular to the centreline and connected at the upper end to cant beam.
canvas	Material for making the sails of a ship; can be jute, cotton or hemp.
canvas sock	A short hose fitted to the drain pipe at hatch corner.
cap rail	Uppermost part of a railing.
capacity plan	A plan showing the arrangement, location and capacities of relevant compartments such as holds, ballast tanks, bunkers, fresh water tanks, etc.
cape	A high land projecting into the sea.
capsize	of a boat, to turn over in the water
capstan	a barrel revolving in a vertical axis to haul in a cable or rope; usually driven by electric or hydraulic motor compare windlass
captain	the person in charge of a ship; another title for master
carbon precursors	particles formed during the combustion which eventually produce the solid carbon
cardinal points	the four principal points of a compass namely North, South, East and West
cargo	goods carried in a ship
cargo deadweight	the remaining carrying capacity after deducting from deadweight tonnage, the fuel, water, stores, dunnage, and such other items necessary for use on a voyage
cargo net	a net used for the lifting of small packages or bags; made of rope or wire and be large if used for cargo operation
cargo plan	a plan which marks and indicates the locations of various cargoes stowed on board; the plan may be on simple outline of the ships cargo spaces
cargo sweat	water droplets which condense on the cargo when a ship sails from a cool place to warmer places; this occurs when the warmer incoming air comes into contact with the cooler cargos surface compare ships sweat
carling	the fore and aft strength member fitted between the deck beams; also known as deck girder
carrier	owner or operator of ships who enter into a contract with shipper for the transportation of goods; also refers to the ship carrying cargo
carving note	a document filled in by owner of a ship under construction giving ships name, tonnage, official number, port of registry, etc and signed by surveyor certifying that the ship particulars have been carved on board
cast off	to let go or unfasten mooring lines securing a ship to a berth, etc.
catalytic fines	extremely hard and abrasive particles of aluminium silicate found in fuel as a result of its use as catalyst in crude oil refineries employing catalytic cracking process; can cause excessive wear in engine parts
catamaran	a boat with two parallel hulls side by side
cathode	an electrode carrying a negative charge opposite of anode
cathodic protection	the prevention of corrosion by making the metal to protect a cathode; this is because when corrosion occurs in an electrolyte, corrosion cells are set up causing electric currents to flow out from anodes to cathodes; the anodes give itself up or corrode and the cathodes receive current or get protected; on a ship, cathodic protection is applied on the ships hull, sea water piping system, ballast tanks, etc.
catwalk	an elevated walkway running in the fore and aft direction along the centreline of a ship from poop deck to forecandle deck; provides safe access to bow during heavy seas; generally found in large tanker
caulk	of wooden vessel, to make a joint watertight by filling the seams between the planks with oakum or similar material
cavitation	a phenomenon in which the pressure within a liquid falls to a level low enough for the liquid to vaporise and form local cavities; this may occur in a propeller rotating in water causing a drop in propeller efficiency and pitting on blade surfaces
centre of buoyancy	the geometrical centre of the volume of water displaced by a floating ship, that is, where the total moments of the displaced volume about this centre is zero
centre of flotation	the geometrical centre of the waterplane areas around which a ship may be assumed to trim
centre of gravity	the geometrical centre of a ship through which the whole weight of the ship may be assumed to act
centreline	the middle line of a ship running in the fore and aft direction

certificate of competency	certificate issued to seafarers after passing examinations conducted to test their competency in handling ships matters; may be divided into deck and engine categories and graded from class 5 to 1 where 1 being the highest grade
certificate of registry	a certificate stating the identity of a ship and provides evidence of title to ownership
cetane index	a measure of the ignition quality of fuel; the higher the indices the shorter the ignition lags and easier the fuel will ignite
chafing plate	a plate to protect against chafing
chain	connected metal rings or links used for holding anchor, fastening timber cargoes, etc.
chain locker	a compartment usually at the forward end of a ship which is used to store the anchor chain; the cable chain goes in and out through a hawse pipe
chain plate	plate for attaching the shroud or standing rigging to the hull
chain stopper	a device for securing the chain cable when riding at anchor as well as securing the anchor in the housed position in the hawse pipe, thereby relieving the strain on the windlass
chalk test	a type of weathertightness test carried out on hatch cover system - the chalk is first rubbed on the compression bar around the hatch, and then the hatch covers are closed; after opening, the imprint on the rubber seal should be continuous indicating proper contact see hose test, ultrasonic test
chandler	one who sells supplies to ships
chart	a detailed map of the sea bottom and coast for navigational use
charterer	a person or firm who enters into a contract with a shipowner for the transportation of cargo or passengers for a stipulated period of time, ie a shipowners customer
chaser	device used to locate and recover a buried anchor during anchor handling operation
chine	the intersection of the lines which form the sides and bottom of a flat-bottomed boat; also written as chime
chips	another name for carpenter
chock	1. wooden block used as a wedge to keep things from shifting when a ship rolls; 2. metal piece fitted precisely between machinery and its foundation to achieve alignment; in place of metal pieces, resin can be poured in place after alignment
chronometer	a special clock constructed to give very accurate time; used in navigation
clampmeter	an instrument for measuring larger magnitude of electrical current flow than can be measured by ammeter, as in power supply
clean products	refers to oil products that do not stain the surfaces in contact with them, e.g. jet fuel, gasoline, diesel oil, etc. compare dirty petroleum products
cleat	a fitting with two projecting arms or horns for securing ropes
clew	the lower aft corner of a sail compare tack
clingage	residual oil that remained on the walls of pipes or on the internal surfaces of tanks after most of the oil has been removed
clinometer	an instrument for measuring a ships angle of inclination or heel
clipper	a name applied to fast ship with sails
cloud point	temperature at which wax begins to separate from the oil when cooled; indicated by appearance of cloud or haze
coaming	a raised vertical erection around each hatch, or deck opening to prevent water from getting down the opening
coaming bar	the horizontal plate at the top of the coaming structure
cock	a type of valve which controls the flow of fluid by a plug; the plug has a through hole which is designed to shut by rotating the hole 90o away from the line of flow
cofferdam	void space between two bulkheads or "walls" that receives and retains any liquid that has leaked through one bulkhead
cold filter plugging point	measures the ability of fuel to flow at low temperature; the lower the CFPP, the lower is the ambient temperature at which the fuel can run without causing problem
cold work	any work that has no chance to create a source of ignition
collier	bulk carrier specially constructed for the carriage of coal; loading by gravity from chutes and discharge may be by grabs or conveyor belt system
collision bulkhead	the foremost transverse watertight bulkhead which is designed to prevent water flooding the forward cargo hold in the event of head-on collision
colours	a ships national ensign
companion way	access hatch with stairway linking between decks; sometimes written as companionway
compartment	any one of the spaces created when a ship is divided by watertight bulkheads and doors
compass rose	graduated circle diagram on a chart or compass card that shows the direction of true and magnetic bearings
complement	the number of crew members required to man a ship

compression bar	of hatch cover, a steel bar designed to force against the rubber seal when the cover is closed to achieve weathertight joint
connecting rod	a rod connecting lower end of piston rod with crank pin of a reciprocating diesel engine
conning	act of directing the course and speed of a ship
consignment	a shipment of cargo to consignee; the act of shipping goods to another
consignor	the person or firm named in the bill of lading as the shipper
constructive total loss	the loss may be considered constructive when the cost of salvage or repair for the damage occurred exceeds the insured value; in this case, the assured may go for a partial loss and retain ownership of the subject, or go for actual total loss and leave the subject to the insurer
container	a large metal box of standard size for carrying goods; twenty feet and forty feet long containers are common when transporting by sea
containership	a ship designed to carry standard sized containers prepacked with cargo for ease of loading and unloading operation; sometimes written as container ship
controllable pitch propeller	a propeller with blades that can be rotated in position to achieve ahead, astern or neutral thrust, the main engine only needs to run in a constant direction; also known as variable pitch propeller or CPP for short
copper strip corrosion	measures the tendency of a petroleum product to corrode pure copper
corsair	pirate or pirate ship
cowl	a specially shaped fitting on top of natural ventilation trunk which can be rotated to collect and direct air through the trunking to a particular place; helps to improve air flow
coxswain	the person in charge of steering a boat
crane	a machine for lifting and moving heavy weights
crew	a person working on board a ship
cross joint	of hatch cover, where hatch covers meet when close
cross tree	athwartship erection across the mast
crosshead	a rectangular block which connects and acts as a hinge between the lower end of piston rod and the upper end of connecting rod in an engine; at its athwartship faces, it carries guide shoes which transmit the side thrust of the connecting rod to the guides on the columns
crow's feet	small lines radiating from a luff or eye
crow's nest	elevated look-out station near the mast head
cuddy	forward cabin in a small boat
cunningham hole	a ringed hole located a short distance up from the tack of a sail; serves as an eye for tensioning the luff
cutout	opening intentionally cut in structural members to facilitate continuity of welding seams, criss-crossing structural members to pass through or simply for drainage
cutter	sailing boat with one mast, bowsprit and fore and aft sails
DA (Selskap Med Delt Ansar)	a limited partnership in Norway.
Debt Turn	trade debtors divided by cost of sales, times 365 (ie the number of days in a year). This expresses the average time taken to collect trade debts during the year. Suppliers with slow-paying customers often have a high debt turn.
Demise charter	temporary transfer of a vessel to another party for the period of the charter such that the shipowner ceases to have any control over her
Demurrage	fee paid by the charterer to the shipowner when the latter's ship is detained beyond the specified date agreed in the charter party opposite of despatch
Det Norske Veritas	the Norwegian Classification Society or DNV for short
damaged stability	describes the ability of a ship to remain upright when damaged; merchant shipping regulations specify certain minimum standards to be satisfied under damaged conditions
davit	a fitting for lifting and lowering boat or heavy items at the ship's sides; in its simplest form, may look like an inverted L-shaped steel pipe mounted on deck
dba (Doing Business As)	used in the USA by individuals who want to register a business name, but do not want to incorporate.
dd	in Croatia this is a joint stock company (Dionicko Društvo). In Slovenia it is a stock company (Delniska Druzba) where all public companies have this style.
deadeye	wooden block with holes to receive shroud or stay and allow them to be tightened
deadfreight	a form of compensation payable by the charterer or shipper to the shipowner when the charterer is unable to load the cargo quantity agreed in the charter party; the amount payable is the loss of freight equivalent to the cargo unavailable
deadlight	steel, hinged cover to protect the portholes glass in heavy weather or to prevent lights inside the ship from showing outside; it can be mechanically secured by screws and nuts
deadrise	athwartship rise of the bottom plating from the keel to the bilge, i.e. making the keel lower than the port and starboard bilge turns; also known as rise of floor
deadship	describes a ship without electrical and propulsion power

deadweight	total weight of cargo, stores, fuel and water needed to submerge a ship from her light draught to her maximum permitted draught; it is given by the difference between the load displacement and light displacement (also known as lightweight); DWT in short
deballast	act of taking out ballast; usually refers to pumping out of sea water from the ballast tanks
decal	pressure sensitive label printed with appropriate numbering, letters or symbols for identification purposes
decibel	the unit of sound pressure, giving a measure of the noise intensity; dB in short
deck beam	a horizontal transverse structural member that supports a deck or flat in the athwartship direction compare carling
deckhead	underside of any deck, also refers to the ceiling of compartment or hold; sometimes written as deck head
deductible	of marine insurance, is the amount which the shipowner has to pay from his own account when making a claim
depth	of ship, is the vertical distance from the lowest point of the hull to the measured deck level compare moulded depth
deratting certificate	a certificate stating when a ship has been inspected for rats or fumigated; also known as certificate of deratisation
derelict	afloat vessel that has been abandoned by the crew
derrick	a boom or spar used for cargo handling; pivoted at one end to a mast or strong point on deck, the free end can be swung and lifted using a combination of wire ropes, winches and blocks to hoist or lower cargo
derrick post	a mast or strong post used for swinging the derrick
despatch	compensation paid by shipowner to charterer as a reward when the latter is able to complete the cargo operations in less time than the laytime allowed opposite of demurrage
devils claw	a two-pronged claw for fitting over a link in the anchor chain and with a screw arrangement, it can tighten up to secure a housed anchor, thus taking the weight off the windlass
dew point	the temperature to which water vapour in the air can be cooled without condensation; below this point, the moisture begins to condense to liquid forming fog or mist
diesel engine	an internal combustion engine in which the heat required for ignition of the fuel is generated by the compression of the air used for combustion; also known as compression ignition engine; the simpler types are two-stroke engine and four-stroke engine
diesel index	a measure of the ignition quality of fuel
dirty ballast	ballast carried in cargo tanks which are not washed, i.e. ballast that is contaminated with oils
dirty petroleum products	refers to crude oils and residual fuels such as heavy fuel oils; also known as black products compare clean products
dirty ship	a tanker which has been carrying dirty petroleum products such as fuel oil
discharge book	book for maintaining a continuous record of a seaman's service on board; details such as ship particulars, appointment held, character, etc.; the book is usually issued by national maritime department
dispersant	chemical product that is environment friendly and designed to disperse oil spills at sea and in port where there is a pollution incident
displacement	the weight of water displaced by a ship floating in a given condition; a measure of ship's size
distillate	product formed by condensation of the vapours distilled from petroleum
diurnal	daily; happens once a day
docking plan	a plan showing the form of the bottom and the location of appendages, sea chests, overboard discharges, underwater valves, drain plugs, etc. so that keel blocks would not be positioned directly under them
dockmaster	the person in charge of docking operations
dog	a wedge-type, hand-operated metal lever used to close doors and hatch covers; usually several pieces are fitted around the edges of each door or hatch cover to ensure proper tightening
doldrums	regions near the equator where there is little or no wind
donkey boiler	small boiler for supplying steam to machinery used in harbour; this term is obsolete
donkeyman	rating attending to a donkey boiler and helps in the engine room
doo	this is a limited liability company in Croatia (Društvo s Ograničenom Odgovornošću) and Slovenia (Družba z Omejeno Odgovornostjo).
double hull	hull which has wing tanks and double bottoms enveloping the cargo tanks in the middle; a form of hull design to minimise the risk of environmental pollution in case of collision, grounding or damage to the cargo spaces; usually used to describe tanker construction compare single skin
doubler	additional plate welded on top of the original plate to increase stiffness or local strength; in some cases to maintain watertightness
douse	to lower and stow a sail quickly and suddenly
draftage	quantities drawn from a bulk cargo

draught	the vertical distance measured from the lowest point of a ships hull to the waterline or the water surface compare air draught
draught marks	figures welded on the bow, midship and stern of each side of a ships shell plating to indicate draught; the distance is read from the lower edge of each number; draught measured at the bow is called forward draught and at the stern is called aft draught
dredger	ship designed to deepen a channel, river or area by removing the deposits from the sea bottom, either through suction or excavating using revolving buckets
drogue	another term for sea anchor
drop line	of a tanker, the cargo pipeline which is used to load the cargo into the tank by gravity; usually made of a straight steel pipe leading right down to just above the inner bottom
drop point	the temperature at which a grease undergoes change of state, i.e. from semi-solid to liquid under specified test conditions
dry dock	excavated basin with entrance that can be closed by a watertight gate; entire basin can be pumped dry to expose the underwater section of a ships hull for inspection and maintenance; also known as graving dock compare floating dock
dry saturated steam	describes saturated steam that contains no water particles in suspension
dry towing	transporting vessels, which are not suitable for towing, by loading them onto a specially designed barge
dryness fraction	of steam, is the ratio of the weight of pure dry steam to the weight of steam and water particles in suspension
dumb barge	a barge with no means of propulsion; a tug is required to move the barge
dunnage	any material (eg. wooden planks) which is placed at the bottom of the cargo hold to raise the cargo; serves to keep cargo dry or prevent shifting
dynamic positioning	a system to maintain a ship such as drilling ship in a relatively fixed position with respect to the seabed without the use of anchors or mechanical mooring systems; the fully computerised system controls two or more propulsive devices such as thrusters with feedback signals from gyrocompass, global positioning system (GPS) or other means
dynamic stability	describes the ability of a floating body to remain upright when subjected to external disturbance such as wind or wave motions
dynamical stability	of a ship at a given angle of heel, is the work done to heel the ship to that angle; it is proportional to the area under the statical stability curve up to that angle
EE (Eterrorrythmos)	a limited liability partnership in Greece.
ETA	estimated time of arrival
ETC	estimated time of completion
ETD	estimated time of departure
EURL (Enterprise Unipersonnelle à Responsabilité Limitee)	in France this is a sole proprietorship with limited liability.
ebb	falling of tide from high to low, with the tide flowing away from the land
echo depth well	a box in the double bottom which houses the transducer of the fathometer; it allows access to the transducer for maintenance
echo sounder	an electronic device which emits sound waves from a ships bottom to determine the depth of the water
echo sounding	checking the depth of water with an echo sounder
economiser	a kind of heat exchanger used to recover waste heat in the exhaust gases; it is usually placed after the exhaust gas boiler in a multi-stage heat recovery system; feed water is circulated through it to absorb the heat energy
eddy	a circular movement of water caused by obstruction in the flow of water, or the meeting of opposite currents
effective horsepower	the power required to pull the ship through smooth water and still air without any propeller related complications; sometimes known as towrope horsepower; ehp for short
electrode	1. electrical conductor by which electric current is passed into or out of a liquid or gas; 2. metal rod used for arc welding
electrolyte	liquid which allows electric current to pass through
electroplating	depositing of one thin layer of metal e.g. silver, nickel, etc. upon another by electrochemical processes; also known as electrodeposition
emulsibility	measures the ability of water-insoluble fluid to form an emulsion with water
emulsification	mixing of oil and water together to form emulsion
emulsifier	additive used to produce stable emulsion
emulsion	mixture of particles of one liquid in another; the particles are so fine that they remain in suspension and do not settle out
engine room	a machinery space where the main engine and its supporting machinery are sited
engine seat	a specially reinforced floors or plates, on which the engine rests

ensign	the flag flown by a ship to indicate her nationality; national flag
essential service	of electrical power supply on board a ship, it refers to emergency power supply to services that is essential to the safety of the ship and crew during a total power failure; essential service may include emergency lighting, alarms, communications, etc.
even keel	describes the condition of a ship when she is lying evenly in the fore and aft direction, i.e. when there is zero trim
exhaust gas boiler	boiler that relies solely on exhaust gas generated by main engine to produce steam during voyage
explosive limits	the limits beyond which, the vapour and air mixture cannot be ignited; these limits are known as lower explosive limit and upper explosive limit; the flammable range of petroleum products may be considered as between 1% to 10% per volume of the atmosphere
extreme breadth	the transverse distance extending from the most outboard point on one side to the most outboard point on the other side of a ships hull including any projections on the ships side; this dimension determines the maximum space occupied by the ship when used with length overall compare moulded breadth
extreme draught	draught measured to the lowest projecting portion of a ship
eye	refers to a small hole or loop
FFA	a freight forward agreement - this is a financial derivative instrument that enables freight to be hedged forward at a fixed price.
FOB (Free on Board)	this is where goods are purchased at cost and the importer takes care of the insurance and freight requirements.
FSA	Financial Services Authority - an independent body that regulates the financial services industry in the UK.
fair	to alter and obtain the proper shape or dimension
fairing the lines	checking and making adjustment to the curved lines drawn separately in the various plans (eg. lines plan, body plan, half-breadth plan or profile plan) such that any point on any plan should have the same breadth, the same height, and same distance forward or aft of a particular frame station as the same point drawn on other plans
fairlead	any fixture such as ring, eye, roller, etc that guides a rope in the direction required
fairway	the path of water in a channel, harbour or river that is navigable
fall	any rope for hauling
fantail	rounded or elliptical after deck which extends well aft of the after perpendicular, and overhangs the propeller and rudder
fathom	the measurement unit for water depths and lengths of rope; 1 fathom is equivalent to 6 feet (1.83 metre); it came from the length measured across the outstretched arms of a man, which was standardised as 6 feet
fathometer	echo sounder for measuring the depth of water
faying surface	contact surface between two adjoining parts
feeder	a temporary grain container or vertical trunk fitted in the hatch of a hold to feed it as the grain settles after loading
feeder ship	smaller ship which calls at less busy ports or ports inaccessible to deepsea vessels and carries cargo to major loading port for transshipment
fender	any material hung over the ships sides to prevent damage when coming alongside another ship or during berthing; may be old rubber tyres or a mass of old ropes
fiddles	wooden fittings which can be raised above the edges of table to prevent bowls, cups, plates, etc. from sliding off the table in rough sea
fiddley	1. space above boiler; 2. funnel casing
fire point	the lowest temperature at which the heat from the combustion of a burning vapour is capable of sustaining the combustion without the ignition source; this point is higher than the flash point
first mate	the next deck officer below master; also known as chief mate or chief officer
fish plate	the long narrow strip of steel plate projecting upwards at the edges of superstructure deck to prevent water from flowing over; sometimes written as fishplate
flame screen	wire mesh made of high heat conductivity material and fitted around opening, such as air vent heads of fuel tanks, leading to atmosphere; it acts as a safety measure to prevent any flame from emitting out of the opening in case of fire within
flare	1. distress signal which burns brightly upon activation for a short period to attract attention; 2. up-and-outward spread of the hull form at the top near the bow
flash point	the lowest temperature at which a liquid must be heated to give off a vapour that will ignite when a flame is applied under standard conditions
flat rack	an open type container with no sides or top; made up of a flat bed and two upright ends, it is designed for carrying cargoes such as vehicles, machinery, etc.
floor	the transverse plate which crosses the longitudinal girders and stiffens the bottom plating; also known as floor plate compare keelson
flotsam	goods and ships gear that remain afloat after shipwreck

fluke	the hook of an anchor
fog bell	a bell rung by a ship anchored in fog at regular intervals
fog horn	a device used to emit horn; for use especially in fog
fore	forward part of a ship opposite of aft
fore and aft	in the lengthwise direction of a ship running from stern to stem
forecastle	the watertight superstructure raised above the upper continuous deck at the forward end of a ship; usually used as storerooms for mooring ropes, paint, deck stores, etc.; sometimes abbreviated as focsle compare poop
foreign going ship	ship that trades in foreign ports of other countries
foremast	the ships most forward mast
forepeak	the enclosed space immediately forward of the fore collision bulkhead; usually used as ballast tank compare aftpeak
forestay	stay or rope that is secured forward of the mast to support the latter against forces acting in the aft direction
forty footer	a popular term for 40 feet long container; commonly abbreviated as FEU which stands for Forty-foot Equivalent Unit
forward perpendicular	represented by a vertical line at the intersection of the designed load waterline and the forward side of the stem; FP in short
four-stroke cycle	the cycle of operation completes in two revolutions of the crankshaft, ie air intake or suction on downward stroke of piston, followed by compression on upward stroke, firing & expansion on next downward stroke, and finally exhaust on the upward stroke again; the complete cycle is done on four separate strokes of the engine piston compare two-stroke cycle
four-stroke engine	an internal combustion engine which works on four-stroke cycle, ie power is developed once every four strokes compare two-stroke engine
fracture	describes break or partial break of steel
frame	stiffening members placed at equidistant and to which the plating of a ship is attached
frame spacings	equidistant intervals between successive frame rings in the ships fore and aft line
framing	system of stiffening the shell, bottom, side and deck plating of a ship by intersecting strength members
fray	to become worn, thin or untwisted at the edge of rope, awning, etc.
free in liner out	of freight rate, the freight is inclusive of carriage and cost of cargo discharging, i.e. unlike liner terms, it does not include the cost of loading; FILO in short; also known as free in liner terms discharge or FILTD in short compare liner in free out
free pratique	official permission from the port health authorities that the ship is without infectious disease or plague and the crew is allowed to make physical contact with shore; otherwise the ship may be required to wait at quarantine anchorage for clearance
freeing ports	openings cut in the bulwark to free the deck of water
freight	1. cargo carried on a ship; 2. charges paid for the carriage of cargo from one place to another
freight rate	fee payable to the carrier for the transportation of cargo from one place to another
fresh water allowance	1. the amount that load lines assigned for sea water may be submerged when loading in fresh water; 2. amount by which the ship would submerge when going from salt water to fresh water
fresh water generator	equipment for producing fresh water from sea water during voyage; it may use the waste heat from main engines jacket cooling water to evaporate sea water in a vacuum condition and then condensing the steam to produce distilled water
friction stir welding	designed mainly for aluminium welding, the very high speed rotation of specially profiled tool generates heat and causes the metal to be joined to soften and flow in the solid state to effect welding
fuel cell	a device that generates electrical power by electrochemically combining hydrogen and oxygen gases to produce water and heat; the energy released is tapped by electrodes as electric current; this technology is considered "green" i.e. environment friendly
fumigate	to destroy the vermin or insects in a ships superstructure or cargo holds using the fumes of certain chemicals
funnel	a metal chimney made of pipe through which exhaust gases of engines or boilers are led out of the machinery space to the atmosphere
GENCON	the codename given to a standard form voyage charter party published by BIMCO for general purpose use
GIE (Groupement d'Interet Economique)	a style used in France, this is a type of co-operative, non-profit making.
GPS	stands for Global Positioning System; generally used to refer to GPS receiver or GPS navigator
GPS navigator	essentially a GPS receiver with additional function - able to calculate and display solutions to waypoint navigation problems
GPS receiver	an electronic device which receives and decodes the GPS satellite broadcasts and displays position, course and speed of the ship

Geared ship	a ship that is equipped with its own cranes or derricks. A ship without its own lifting equipment is considered to be gearless.
Gearing	MRCinfo.com reports adopt the Simple Gearing ratio, this being long-term debt divided by equity (the alternative is the Traditional Gearing ratio, this being long-term debt divided by long-term debt and equity). The simple gearing ratio expresses the relative importance of loans in a capital structure. If below 1, the gearing or debt-to-equity ratio is satisfactory or low.
Germanischer Lloyd	the German Classification Society or GL for short
GmbH & Co KG	this is the same as a KG (see separate entry), except the shareholder with unlimited liability is a GmbH (limited liability company) instead of an individual.
GmbH (Gesellschaft mit Beschränkter Haftung)	this is a company with limited liability, commonly used in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. In Austria, the style is given as GesmbH.
Green Award	vessels awarded with a Green Award Flag are those that are extra safe and clean, thus meeting minimum technical and managerial requirements.
Greenwich Mean Time	the time by the sun as measured at Greenwich, England; GMT in short
Greenwich meridian	the line of 0o longitude which passes through Greenwich, England; also known as first or prime meridian
Gross Registered Tonnage	gives the total internal volume of the vessel in one hundred cubic feet, less the volume of certain exempted spaces which provide comfort to the crew and ships safety; also known as Gross Tonnage or GRT for short
galley	the cooking compartment in a ship
gangway	a portable bridge made of aluminium, steel or wood linking shore to ship, or ship to ship
gantry crane	a mobile crane with a span across several rows of containers; used in container terminal to move and organise the containers
garboard strake	the strake or line of next plates running in the fore and aft direction next to the keel
gasket	a thin sheet or disc, made of specially designed rubber or fibre based material, used for sealing a joint between two metal surfaces to prevent oil, water, steam or any fluid from escaping
gear	generally used to mean fittings, tools, equipment, or any part of a machinery
general arrangement plan	plan of a vessel showing a side view and several plan views at different decks; the drawing provides general details of the ship such as dimensions, number of cargo holds, tanks and cranes, layout of the cabins in each deck, etc.
general average	general indemnity made by all interested parties concerned for a maritime loss incurred voluntarily but necessarily for the safety of the remaining property when in peril
general purpose rating	a rating who is trained to work on deck as well as engine room
general service pump	a pump that can be used as a fire pump or ballast pump or cooling water pump by simply changing the inlet and outlet valves connecting to the different systems
gimbals	a mechanism, consisting of two rings pivoted at right angles, which allows the compass or chronometer to maintain at all times in horizontal plane regardless of the vessels movement
girder	a long strong steel beam of H section used for keelson and framework where considerable strength is required; generally run in the fore and aft direction under a deck to support deck beams and deck; the girder, in turn, is supported by widely spaced pillars
girding	capsizing of a tug by the vessel it is towing
gooseneck	1. solid fitting which connects the end of a boom to the pivot; 2. bend at top of a pipe such as air vent pipe on deck
grain capacity	the cubic capacity of a cargo hold when the length, breadth and depth are measured right up to the plating; in this case, the cargo is free-flowing and is capable of filling the spaces between the ships frames; sometimes known as Grain Cubic see bale capacity
grating	a framework of crossed or parallel metal bars, placed across an opening or as flooring on platform eg a catwalk, to allow air to flow freely or to allow view below walkway
gravity tank	tank positioned at a certain height to maintain supply at a required pressure without use of pump
greaser	an engine room rating whose duties include lubrication, cleaning, etc.; also known as oiler or wiper
grommet	1. ring made from a single rope strand; 2. brass eyelet formed in a canvas; 3. soft rope ring used as a gasket under a nut or bolt head to maintain watertightness
guard rails	permanent railing, usually made of steel pipe, fitted on outboard edge of a deck to prevent person from falling over the ships sides
gudgeon	a block with a hole in the centre to receive the pintle of a rudder; located on the stern post, it supports and allows the rudder to swing
gudgeon pin	horizontal pin by means of which a piston is attached freely to a connecting rod in a diesel engine
gunwale	the upper edge of the side of a small ship or boat, or upper edge of bulwarks in bigger ship
gusset plate	bracket plate used to tie together and reinforce two structural members in a framework; usually triangular and can be found at corners
guy	a rope used to steady and control the lateral swing of a boom or derrick

gybing	turning the vessels stern through the wind to change from one tack to the other compare tacking
gypsy	a sprocket in the windlass for connecting the links in anchor chains; used for lowering and hauling in the anchor
gyro compass	mechanical compass which consists of a gyroscope rotating at a very high speed; set to point continuously to true north rather than magnetic north
HB (Handelsbolag)	a trading partnership in Sweden.
Hedging	this is a way of safeguarding against losses on foreign exchange.
halyard	ropes for hoisting sails, yards, flags, etc.
handy billy	small tackle to assist in light lifting jobs
handymax	a dry bulk vessel with deadweight between 35,000 to 50,000 tons
handysize	a dry bulk vessel or product tanker with deadweight between 15,000 to 50,000 tons
harbour	a port or area protected from the open sea by land or walls, in which a ship can lie safely
harbour launch	a small boat that operates within or in the vicinity of a harbour
harbour master	an official in charge of a harbour
hardening	a heat treatment process for making metal hard enough to cut other metals and resist wear; as with annealing, after first heating the metal to a certain temperature, the metal is quenched rather than allowed to cool slowly
hatch	opening in deck that provides passage for cargo into hold or access for worker; also known as hatchway
hatch beam	removable transverse beam placed across the hatch to support portable wooden hatch covers and improve strength
hatch coaming	raised plates stiffened and constructed around a hatch or rectangular opening in deck
hatch cover	cover to maintain weathertightness of the hatch; for large hatch e.g. cargo hold, it may consist of simple lift-away pontoon covers or the hydraulic-operated folding covers which are faster and more efficient
hawse pipe	steel pipe through which the hawser or cable of anchor passes; located in the ships bow on either side of her stem
hawser	large steel wire or fibre rope used for towing or mooring
head sail	any sail set forward of the foremast
headlog	vertical steel plate at the extreme fore and aft end of a barge or river craft that connects the deck and the rake shell plating; usually constructed with thicker plate to better withstand impact damage during operation
heave	1. describes the vertical, up-and-down motion of a ship; one of the six principal motions of a ship in waves; 2. to lift something compare pitch, roll, surge, sway, yaw
heaving line	a small and light line that is used to link up two points for the purpose of passing, e.g. a mooring line from ship to shore or an item to another ship
heel	1. of a ship, to list or incline to one side; 2. transverse inclination due to wind pressure, weight shift or rudder action; 3. the corner of an angle, bulb angle or channel, commonly used in reference to the moulded line
hf (Hlutafelag)	a limited liability company in Iceland
hogging	describes a state of a ship when she is drooping at the fore and aft ends and bending upwards in the middle; this induces compression of the bottom and tension of the upper deck opposite of sagging
hold	internal compartment in a ship where cargo can be carried
holystone	soft white sandstone used for cleaning wooden decks by scouring
hopper	funnel-like container with a tapered construction at its bottom; used when loading or discharging bulk cargo
hopper barge	barge designed for dredging operation; it has hinged flap doors at the bottom of the compartment which carries the dredged mud and sand; after each loading, the barge is taken to deeper water to dump the dredged material
horse power	a measure of the work done in a given time; 1 horsepower is equivalent of 745.7 watt; HP for short
hose test	a weathertightness test of the hatch cover system using a water jet see chalk test, ultrasonic test
hot work	any work which has an ignition source or a temperature sufficiently high to cause the ignition of a flammable gas mixture, eg welding, gas cutting, electric driven hand tools, etc.
hovercraft	a ship which has its weight fully supported by an air cushion to reduce the hull resistance when moving through water; the air cushion is created by centrifugal lift fans blowing air into the under space bound by a skirt; this type of ship is known as surface effect vessel or SEV for short
hydraulic starting	this system uses a hydraulic cranking motor instead of electric starter motor to run up the engine during starting; the driving force is stored in a hydro-pneumatic accumulator rather than a battery; the accumulator is used to store up the potential energy by pumping in oil with a hydraulic hand pump to compress the pre-charged Nitrogen gas from 100 bar to 200 bar

hull	the body of a ship
hydrofoil	a fast boat designed to have its hull lifted clear of the water surface and supported by foils or wings when it reaches cruising speed
hydrography	the science of survey, measurement and description of the oceans and seas, especially for navigation purposes; the information collected is presented in the form of charts, sailing directions, tide tables, etc.
hydrometer	an instrument for measuring the relative density of liquids
hydrostatic curves	a set of curves which plot the hydrostatic quantities such as displacement, centre of flotation, centre of buoyancy, transverse metacentre, etc against the draught; these curves are useful for quick assessment of the draughts and the initial stability in various loading conditions
hygrometer	an instrument for measuring the relative humidity of air or gas
I/S (Interessentskab)	a Danish general partnership where all partners have unlimited liability.
Ice Clause	one of the sundry clause that may be found in charter party covering cases in which a ship or port may be ice bound
Inc (Incorporated)	this is a very common style used in the US and Canada, where the shareholders have limited liability. In the shipping sector, many companies registered offshore in Liberia adopt the corporate style of Inc.
Inchmaree Clause	named after a ship, this marine insurance clause was introduced in 1887 to insure against damage caused by crew negligence
Institute Warranty Limits	trading limits imposed by the hull insurers on the ship e.g. restricted to areas free from ice hazards; IWL in short
ice breaker	ship designed to clear a navigable channel in ice; the bow is specially strengthened and shaped to break the ice sheet
ignition point	the lowest temperature at which a substance will ignite and burn; this is usually higher than flash point
ignition temperature	the temperature, which a substance must be raised to, for it to ignite
impingement	describes a condition during injection, whereby excessive velocity of fuel spray causes fuel to contact diesel engines piston crown and liner with possible localised burning
in way of	in the vicinity of; in the area of
inboard	inside the ship; towards the centreline opposite of outboard
inclining experiment	a heeling experiment conducted to determine the height of the centre of gravity of a ship in light condition; this serves to provide stability information for the completed ship when the newly built ship is near completion, the experiment is carried out by moving a known weight transversely across the deck through a known distance to measure the amount of inclination resulted; the data measured is then used to calculate the transverse and longitudinal centre of gravity
indicated horsepower	the power indicated in the cylinder of a reciprocating engine as measured using an indicator diagram; ihp for short
initial survey	survey of a ships hull and machinery by classification societys surveyors in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate convention so that the relevant certificates may be issued for the first time
inner bottom	a watertight plating covering the top edges of keelsons and floor plates, the lower edges are welded on the outer bottom or ships bottom, i.e. inner plating forming the top of the double bottom; also known as tank top
intercostal	longitudinal girder between the floors or frames of a ship; it is non-continuous
isochronous rolling	of a ship, occurs when the period of each roll is the same
Jacobs ladder	ladder made of rope with wooden rungs, eg pilot ladder which is used over the ships side for embarkation and disembarkation of pilots
Joule	the unit for energy or work and is equivalent to a force of one Newton acting on a mass through a distance of one metre in the direction of the force, ie $1 \text{ J} = 1 \text{ Nm}$
jackstaff	a short staff at the bow of the ship for flying flag; is usually erected at top of the stem
jetsam	goods which have sunk or washed ashore after being jettisoned by a vessel in peril
jettison	deliberate act of throwing goods or fittings overboard in an effort to preserve the ship in peril
jib	1. the lifting arm of a crane; its lower end is pivoted and its upper end has a pulley for lifting heavy goods; also known as derrick; 2. a triangular fore and aft sail in front of the foremast
jig	a device for holding a piece of work in position and guiding the tools that are working on it; may be used when drilling, welding, etc.
journal	1. log book for recording daily events; 2. that part of a shaft which rotates in a bearing
jumbo derrick	a derrick designed for lifting heavier loads
jump ship	to absent oneself from a ship; the said crew then becomes an illegal immigrant in the country without proper document
junction box	enclosure for joining electrical cables
junk	large Chinese sailing ship made of wood

K/S (Kommanditselskab)	this is a Danish limited partnership where there must be at least one limited and one unlimited partner.
KG (Kommanditgesellschaft)	a partnership where there must be at least one limited and one unlimited partner. This is a common style used in Germany and Austria.
KK (Kabushiki Kaishi)	this is a Japanese joint stock company.
Kelvin	unit of temperature which has the same scale as Celsius degree; zero Kelvin, also known as absolute zero, is equivalent to -273oC
Kft (Korlatolt Felelossegu Tarsasag)	a limited liability company in Hungary.
kedge anchor	small anchor for kedging purpose
kedging	using a small anchor to move a vessel from point to point or off a bank by first laying out the anchor and then heaving to it
keel	a line of plates running along the centreline of a ships bottom forming the backbone of the ship frame; usually thicker than other plates beside it
keel block	adjustable block which the centreline ships bottom rests on when in dock; many blocks are required to spread the weight of the ship evenly to prevent damage to ships bottom plating; position of keel blocks is recorded so that in the next docking, keel plates not maintained in one docking can be taken care of
keel rider	a plate fitted on top of the vertical keel plate in a single-bottom ship
keelson	the longitudinal girder which crosses the transverse floor plates and strengthens the ships bottom
ketch	a sailing boat with fore and aft rig on each of two masts
king post	a strong post for derrick; also known as samson post
knee	triangular steel plate or bracket for interlocking two structural members perpendicular to one another
knuckle	the sharp change in the direction of plating or other structural member of a ship
kort nozzle	a circular ring-like nozzle fitted around a propeller to increase thrust at low speed
LLC (Limited Liability Company)	an increasingly popular incorporation style used in the US. It has limited liability and an unlimited life.
LLP (Limited Liability Partnership)	a US partnership.
LR1/LR2	a Long Range 1 product tanker is of 60,000 to 80,000 dwt size, and a Long Range 2 is a product tanker of 80-1110,000 dwt.
Laker	a ship capable of transiting the St. Lawrence Seaway locks to trade in the Great Lakes between USA and Canada; the maximum beam and draught allowed in the lock is approximately 23.15 m and 26 feet fresh water respectively - this is equivalent to ship with a deadweight of about 20,000 tons
Lda (Sociedade por Quotas Limitada)	a private Portuguese company with at least two shareholders.
Leverage	the US term for Gearing.
Liner operators	these operate regular scheduled services between specified ports. The cargo normally involves containers or general cargo.
Liquidity	a company that is liquid can convert assets into cash quickly. Conversely an illiquid company does not have sufficient cash flow to meet its debt obligations.
Lloyds Register of Shipping	the British Classification Society or LR for short
Loran	stands for "Long Range Aid to Navigation"; an obsolete electronic navigation system
Ltd (Limited)	this is commonly used in the UK for private limited companies, though the style is also commonly used by many countries worldwide. Quite simply the shareholders have limited liability.
Ltda (Sociedade por Quotas de Responsabilidade Limitada)	a Brazilian style for a limited company.
laden leg	describes the loaded part of a voyage
lagging	heat insulation material to minimise heat transfer; used in steam pipes, exhaust pipes, boiler, cold room, etc.
lands	of piston, the vertical surfaces between the piston rings and also of the piston crown
lane metre	describes the capacity of a roll-on/roll-off vessel or ro-ro ship in term of the total length of lane for stowing vehicle on board
larboard	obsolete term for port which is opposite of starboard
larnyard	a cord or rope used for securing purpose, eg hanging a whistle around the neck
lashing	1. the act of tying objects together or securing them in position; 2. also refers to the rope used to do that

latent heat	the amount of heat required to change the state of a substance from a solid to a liquid, or from a liquid to a gas; this heat cannot be detected by thermometer since there is no change in temperature
latitude	the distance of a position north or south of the equator, measured in degrees and minutes
launch	1. to get a ship waterborne; 2. a small ship used in harbour to ferry crew or others to and from shore
laycan	a ship chartering term which stands for laydays commencement and cancelling; specifies the earliest date on which laytime can commence and the latest date, after which the charterer can opt to cancel the charter party
laydays	days allowed for cargo operation in a charter party, i.e. laytime calculated in the number of days
layering	separation of fuel oil mixture of different densities into two layers in a tank
laytime	time allowed by the shipowner to the voyage charterer to carry out the cargo loading and/or discharging operations; laytime may be expressed as a certain number of days or number of tons of cargo loaded/unloaded per day
lazarette	1. storage compartment for keeping provisions; 2. ship where people in quarantine are segregated
lead	a weight made of lead and tied with a scaled line that is used to measure the depth of water or find out the nature of seabed; pronounced led
lee	the area or side providing shelter against the wind
lee shore	shore that is on the leeward side of a ship, i.e. her downwind side
leeward	the area on the lee side
leeway	the distance a ship is pushed off its heading by the action of wind
length between perpendiculars	the length of a ship between the forward and after perpendiculars; commonly abbreviated as LPP or LBP
length overall	the extreme fore and aft length of a ship measured from the foremost point of the stem to the aftermost point of the stern; commonly abbreviated as LOA
letter of indemnity	document whereby the issuer undertakes to renounce any claim which may arise in specified circumstances
lien	the legal right to keep possession of somebody's property till debt owed in connection with it is settled
life-saving appliances	appliances carried on a ship for life-saving purposes, for example, lifeboat, liferaft, lifebuoy, lifejacket, etc.; LSA for short
lifeboat	a small boat carried on a ship and designed to sustain lives of crew and passengers if the ship has to be abandoned at sea; required to be provided onboard ocean going ships; sometimes written as life boat
lifebuoy	a ring made of buoyant material which is thrown overboard to rescue a person who has fallen into water; the ring is specially designed to keep the person afloat until he can be recovered from the water
lifejacket	a buoyant jacket which is worn to keep a person afloat in water; can be made of kapok, cork or other equally buoyant material, or of inflatable type
lifeline	1. any rope or line thrown overboard to rescue a drowning person; 2. any line attached to a person for safety reasons
liferaft	an inflatable raft with a protective canopy to preserve the lives of persons in distress in the event of abandon ship; designed to automatically inflate and float free when the ship sinks; compulsory for ocean going ships
light ship	a cargo ship when empty of cargo
lighter	a dumb barge for transporting goods to and from ship to lighten her for sailing in shallow water
lighterage	1. charges paid for the use of a lighter; 2. loading and unloading of a lighter
lightweight	the weight of a ship complete with outfit and propulsion machinery, and ready for sea but without fuel, fresh water, stores, provisions, passengers or cargo on board compare deadweight
limber hole	a small drain hole cut in a frame or plate to prevent water or oil from collecting
liner in free out	of freight rate, the freight is inclusive of carriage and cost of cargo loading, i.e. unlike liner terms, it does not include the cost of discharging; LIFO in short compare free in liner out
liner terms	of freight rate, the freight is inclusive of carriage and cost of cargo handling at the loading and discharging ports
list	to heel or lean over to one side; a transverse inclination of a ship
load lines	the lines which are marked and painted amidships on each side of a ship to indicate the maximum permissible draughts of loading adjusted for various seasons and zones; also known as Plimsoll marks, so named after Samuel Plimsoll, a British Member of Parliament who introduced and promoted its widespread use in 1875 TF: Tropical Fresh water line; F: Summer Fresh water line; T: tropical load water line; S: Summer load water line; W: Winter line; WNA: Winter North Atlantic Line; the letters beside the circular marks indicate the assigning authority, e.g. AB refers to American Bureau of Shipping, etc.

liner	1. refers to a ship calling same ports regularly; 2. a renewable metallic sleeve inserted in a cylinder and designed to take the wearing action of a reciprocating piston
local time	refers to the time in a particular port or country
log	instrument for measuring the speed of a ship and/or the distance run through water
log book	a journal which is used to record any event that may have occurred on board; for example, engine room log, deck log, GMDSS log, official log, etc.
longitude	the distance of a position east or west of the prime meridian, measured in degrees and minutes
longitudinal	1. of longitude or direction lying in the fore and aft line of a ship; 2. refers to any structural member of a ship in the fore and aft direction compare transverse
longitudinal bulkhead	bulkhead lying in the fore and aft line of a ship
longitudinal framing	system of framing or stiffening the shell of a ships hull in the fore and aft direction compare transverse framing
longitudinal stress	the stress experienced by a ships structure in the fore and aft direction; this is induced with the hogging and sagging of a ships hull
longshoreman	labourer who loads and discharges cargo at a wharf or dock side; another name for stevedore, especially in USA
louvre	an opening for ventilation purpose which has vanes fitted one on top of the other and sloped at about 45 degrees to keep out the rain
lower explosive limit	the limit below which, the concentration of hydrocarbon gas in the air mixture is considered to be "too lean" ie insufficient hydrocarbon to support and propagate combustion; LEL in short
lower flammable limit	another name for lower explosive limit; LFL in short
lubber	describes a fellow who is clumsy and awkward
luff	1. leading edge of a fore and aft sail; 2. weather side of a ship opposite of lee
luffing	the lowering and raising motion of a jib pivoted at the lower end; when the load is maintained at constant height automatically during luffing, it is known as level luffing compare slewing
lumpsum	fixed amount irrespective of the quantity
lumpsum charter	vessel charter which pays a fixed sum for a specified cargo capacity
Maritime Lien	this is a claim against a vessel for non-payment of goods or services. The lien arises the moment the work is completed or the goods are supplied. A maritime lien is enforced by an action against the property itself, ie by arrest.
maiden voyage	the first voyage of a new ship after taking delivery from the ship builder and placed in regular service
main deck	the continuous deck that extends between the forward and after ends of a ship
main engine	generally refers to the propulsion diesel engine that propels a ship
manhole	an opening in an enclosed compartment, or boiler fitted with a cover, through which a man can enter for inspection
manifest	a document listing the cargo or passenger carried on a ship; contains cargo details, ships particulars, masters name, etc.
manifold	group of valves placed together side by side; the valves may share a single cast body divided into several compartments for individual piping
manilla rope	a rope made of manilla hemp which contains natural oil
manometer	an instrument for measuring gas pressure
margin line	line drawn parallel to, and not less than 3 inches below, the upper surface of bulkhead deck at the ship side; it defines the highest permissible location on the ship side of any damage waterplane in the final condition of sinkage, trim and heel
margin plate	plating forming the side of double bottom
marine insurance broker	one who acts as an intermediary between shipowner and underwriter; he acts for the assured and his commission is deducted from the premium paid by the assured to the insurer
marine surveyor	one who inspects ships to assess, monitor and report on the condition of the ship, her machinery and cargo; depending on the type of survey carried out, the evaluation requirements may be statutory, class, marine insurance, etc.
mariner	in general, a person working onboard a sea-going ship
marline spike	a hand-held iron pin for opening up the strands of a rope when splicing; it is tapered to a point at one end
mast	a vertical pole made of steel pipe erected perpendicular to the keel in the centreline of a ship; it serves to carry derricks; supports navigation light, signal light, etc at certain height
master	the officer in command of a merchant ship; also known as captain
master mariner	the deck officer holding a masters certificate in a merchant ship; he is qualified to command a ship
mate	deck officer assisting a master; there may be several officers such as Chief Officer, Second Officer or Third Officer in a merchant ship
mates receipt	document signed by the mate of a ship acknowledging receipt of the stated cargo on board
mean draught	the average of forward and aft draughts of a ship

meridian	an imaginary line on earth joining the north and south poles, and cutting across the equator at right angle; it is a line of longitude see Greenwich meridian
messenger	small diameter rope attached to a heavier rope such as towing line to facilitate heaving
metacentre	a theoretical point when dealing with ship stability for small angle of inclination from upright position; consider a floating ship heeling to a small angle, the centre of buoyancy B will shift towards the newly immersed side to B1, and the vertical line of force through this new centre of buoyancy B1 will intersect the original line of force when the ship is upright at M, known as metacentre
metacentric height	the distance from the centre of gravity of a ship to the metacentre; it is considered positive if the metacentre lies above centre of gravity
midship	in or near the middle of a ship; same as amidships
midship section coefficient	the ratio of the midship section area of the underwater body of a ship to the rectangular area having the breadth and draught of the section; also known as midship coefficient $CM = \frac{\text{midship section area}}{B \times T}$
mini-bulker	a smaller sized bulk carrier of about 3000 tons deadweight
mizzen mast	third mast from the bow in a sailing ship with three or more masts
monkey island	navigating and compass position on top of the wheel house
monkeys fist	the weighed down knot at the end of a heaving line
monsoon	persistent wind blowing mainly in China Sea and Indian Ocean; direction of wind reverses depending on season and may be accompanied by heavy rain especially during summer
moon pool	a large opening through the deck and bottom plating of a ship for special operational requirement, e.g. drilling
mooring	securing a vessel to a buoy or strong point ashore e.g. bitt by ropes; at anchorage, by dropping anchor
mother ship	deepsea vessel which carries cargo transhipped from feeder ships; as such, it calls only at selected major ports which have higher cargo volume
motor tanker	refers to any self-propelled tanker, i.e. tanker fitted with diesel engine for propulsion; commonly abbreviated as MT
motor vessel	refers to any self-propelled vessel, i.e. vessel fitted with diesel engine for propulsion; commonly abbreviated as MV
mould	of shipbuilding, the template from which a member of a ships structure is shaped
mould loft	a large sheltered space in a shipyard for laying off full-size templates or moulds of the hull structural components from the construction plans
moulded breadth	the transverse distance between the moulded or inboard surfaces of the side shell plating measured at the widest portion of a ships hull; used in calculations compare extreme breadth
moulded depth	the vertical distance measured at the sides from the baseline to the moulded line of the upper deck at midship compare depth
multimeter	a multi-purpose instrument for measuring electric current in ampere, volt and ohm; it is a combination of ammeter, voltmeter and ohmmeter into one
multimodal transport	describes a shipment having more than one mode of transport, which may not necessarily include an ocean voyage
multipurpose ship	ship designed to carry several types of cargo either as one full cargo or in combination, e.g. ore/oil carrier, ro-ro/container ship, passenger/vehicle carrier, etc.
muster	to assemble at a pre-determined location
NV (Naamloze Vennootschap)	can be either private or public. All publicly traded Dutch companies will be an NV. Commonly used in the Belgium, Netherlands, and Netherlands Antillies.
NVOCC	stands for Non-Vessel-Operating Common Carrier; it is defined in the United States Shipping Act 1984 as a "...common carrier that does not operate the vessels by which the ocean transportation is provided, and is a shipper in its relationship with an ocean common carrier."
New Jason Clause	protective clause mainly for the shipowners entitling them to recover in general average even when the loss is caused by negligent navigation
Nippon Kaiji Kyokai	the Japanese Classification Society or NK for short
nadir	point in the celestial sphere diametrically opposite zenith
nautical mile	a nautical mile is equal to one minute or one sixtieth of a degree of latitude; value varies from 6,046 feet on the equator to 6,108 at the poles; for practical purposes, a standard of 6,080 feet or 1,853 metres is used; also known as sea mile
naval architecture	the art and science of designing and constructing vessels
navel pipe	steel pipe through which cable passes and leads down to the chain locker; also known as spurling pipe
navtex	a radio communication system for broadcasting navigational information to ships; the receiver on board the ships automatically print out the information without human intervention
negative slip	the actual distance travelled by a ship is greater than the theoretical distance calculated by the number of revolutions and pitch of the propeller

neutral axis	an imaginary plane within a beam or other structural member under stress that is not subjected to tension and compression
neutral stability	describes the state of flotation of a ship which will remain in the deflected position if moved, i.e., it will not have a righting or capsizing moment
normalising	a heat treatment process similar to annealing except that the metal cools more quickly to increase the strength, toughness and hardness; the metal is allowed to cool in still air rather than in the furnace
notice of readiness	a notice presented to shipper or his agent by masters or ships agent stating the readiness of the arrived ship to load; it determines when the time starts to count; NOR for short
notice to mariners	weekly notices concerning changes in navigation matters that are used by mariners to keep their charts updated regularly; NTM for short
OHG (Offene Handelsgesellschaft)	in Austria and Germany, this is a partnership.
Off-hire	the time a ship, according to the charter-party, is not gainfully employed and not generating an income for its owner (eg time used for repairs).
Ohms Law	A basic law of electricity which states that the current (I) flowing through a resistance (R) is directly proportional to the potential difference or voltage (V) applied across it; named after George Simon Ohm (1787~1854), a German mathematician; this is expressed by the following formula: $V = I \times R$
One-ship company	often an offshore-registered company of convenience, this is a company that has been domiciled for the sole purpose of owning a single ship.
Oy (Osakeyhtio)	all private companies in Finland have the suffix Oy, though public companies have the style OYJ (Julkinen Osakeyhtio).
ohm	the practical unit of electrical resistance and is equivalent to 1 ampere of electric current flow at a potential drop of 1 volt
ohmmeter	an instrument for measuring the electric resistance in ohm
oil mist detector	safety device for detecting dangerous accumulation of oil mist in diesel engine crankcase; the oil mist may be a result of hot spot arising in the bearings; the heat generated from the hot spot may cause the lubricating oil to evaporate into gaseous particles and also act as an ignition source for the oil mist to explode under certain conducive conditions; the resulting explosion is known as crankcase explosion
oil record book	a mandatory logbook for recording the handling of oil, sludge and oily water to and from a ship; this is usually maintained by Chief Engineer for Oil Record Book part I; in the case of tanker, there will be an additional record book - Oil Record Book part II - which will be maintained by Chief Officer; it is one of the many countermeasures against marine pollution
oily water separator	a specially designed filtering equipment in multiple stages to separate and remove the oil content in bilge water such that the final discharge is less than 15 p.p.m.; an environmental protection measure enforced by international regulation and compulsory on most ships
old man	an informal name given by seamen to the Master of a ship
olefins	class of unsaturated paraffin hydrocarbons obtained from petrol
open charter	a ship hiring contract or charter party with the nature of cargo or destination ports not specified
ordinary seaman	a most junior seaman who works in deck department and has not yet qualified as able seaman; OS for short
outboard	outside the hull; away from the centreline; towards the side of a ship opposite of inboard
Panamax	a large ship capable of transiting the Panama Canal; the maximum beam and draught allowed in the canal is approximately 106 feet and 39 feet fresh water respectively - this is equivalent to ship with a deadweight of about 55,000 tons
Pd	passed
Plc (Public Limited Company)	this is where shares are publicly traded - normally listed on a stock exchange though not necessarily. The owners have limited liability.
Pool	a joint sailing agreement. A pool is a co-operation between owners putting their ships into an operation where net revenues are divided according to a pre-determined key.
Pres	presumed
Prev	previous
Pte Ltd (Limited Liability Company)	commonly used by private companies in Singapore where limited exempt companies also use this style.
Pty Ltd (Proprietary Limited Company)	a private company in Australia, South Africa and elsewhere.
pH	a measure of acidity or alkalinity of a solution; a pH value of 0 indicates extreme acidity while a pH value of 14 indicates extreme alkalinity; pure water is neutral and has a pH value of 7
packet	an obsolete term referring to ship which carries passenger, cargo and mail on a regular run; also known as packet ship or packet boat
pad eye	a fitting having one or more eyes or rings to which a block, wire rope or fibre line can be secured

painter	a short piece of rope, attached to the stem of a small boat, for making her fast or towing
panama lead	a special fairlead at ends of a ship for use when being towed during the transit of Panama Canal
panting	describes the pulsating, in and out movement of ships plating subjected to variations in water pressure, especially during heavy weather as the ship alternately rises and plunges deep into the water
panting beam	beam placed from shipside to shipside to support the shell plating against panting
panting frames	frames placed in the forward and after sections of the hull to resist the panting action of the shell plating
pantry	small compartment close to galley, for keeping food in
parallel middle body	the midship portion of a ship which maintains the cross-sectional shape of the underwater hull form throughout its length; sometimes known simply as parallel body
particular average	a partial loss of the insured subject caused by a peril insured against, other than a general average loss
pawl	a pivoted crawl that catches the teeth of a rack or wheel to prevent reverse movement; during running, it rides over the teeth and drops down to engage the teeth by gravity or spring when the motion stops
pelican hook	a hinged hook designed to open readily
pennant	long tapering four-sided flag with the wider vertical end known as the head beside the mast and the narrower end known as the fly away from the mast; the top and bottom sides taper uniformly towards the centre line
periodical survey	survey of a ships hull and her machinery by classification societys surveyors at regular specified intervals in order to maintain her assigned class
petcoke	carbonaceous solid residual by-product of the oil refining coking process; short for petroleum coke
petty officer	a crew member who ranks between officer and rating, and is in charge of the ratings
pillar	vertical member or column supporting the decks, beams or girders
pilot	a qualified person having local knowledge of navigation hazards, is authorised to guide ships in and out of a port or channel
pilot station	position at sea or ashore where pilots are stationed and ready to board vessel for pilotage
pilotage	1. fee charged by pilots for services rendered; 2. services provided by pilots
pintle	vertical pin on a rudders forward edge that enables the rudder to hang onto the stern post and swing when it fits into the gudgeon
piston	of diesel engine, a cylindrical metallic block with a few grooves cut around the circumference at the top edge; acting together with the piston rings in the grooves, it serves to seal the compressed intake air and combustion gases in the cylinder above it and transmit the expanding gas forces downward to turn the engine via the connecting rod
piston crown	upper section of a two-piece piston; the upper surface facing the combustion space is either concave or convex which is self-supporting, i.e. rigid enough to withstand the repetitive combustion forces without giving way; the piston is usually made in two sections for diesel engine with higher power output see piston skirt
piston skirt	lower section of a two-piece piston; the piston is usually made in two sections for diesel engine with higher power output see piston crown
pitch	describes the motion of a ship about her transverse axis; this causes the forward and aft ends of the ship to rise and fall repeatedly; one of the six principal motions of a ship in waves compare heave, roll, surge, sway, yaw
planform	profile of a foil or sail
podded propulsion	in this propulsion system, the propulsor with direct connection to an electric drive system is mounted inside a pod located beneath the hull; since only electric cables are required to be led to the pod(s), there is flexibility to position the electric generators in the ship
pontoon cover	a lift-away hatch cover which is lifted off the coaming by a vessel or shore crane to provide access to the cargo hold
poop	the watertight superstructure raised above the upper continuous deck at the after end of a ship; usually forms part of the accommodation compare forecastle
port	1. harbour where goods from ships can load and discharge; 2. an opening in ships sides to allow air or light to enter; 3. left side of a ship when looking forward towards the bow opposite of starboard
port clearance	a document from port authority certifying that a ship has clearance to leave a port
port dues	charges related to a ships use of port
port hole	round opening in the sides of a ship; normally kept weather-tight by transparent glass cover with sealing arrangement; provides natural lighting and also ventilation when necessary; also called air port or port light; sometimes written as porthole
port limit	the invisible boundary set around the sea area of a port; within which, any ship calling the port shall be under the jurisdiction of the local port authority

port state control	random inspections carried out by maritime authority of the ports concerned; the purpose is to evaluate the arrived ships hull and machinery condition from a safety and environment protection point of view; they are independent of classification survey; PSC for short
portside	left side of a ship when looking forward towards the bow; sometimes written as port side
positive slip	the actual advance is less than the theoretical advance of ship
post fixture work	work as stipulated in the charter party which needs to be done after the contract has been agreed, e.g. notices of arrival, disbursements, freight computation, orders to the ships master, bunkering, etc.
post meridian	after noon, or p.m.; also written as post meridiem
premium	the cost of insurance, which is usually computed at certain percentage of the shipowners declared valuation
primer	first coating of paint applied to steel plate to prevent corrosion
prismatic coefficient	the ratio of a ships displaced volume of water to the volume of a prism having a length equal to the length of the ship and a cross-sectional area equal to the ships maximum midship sectional area $CP = \frac{\text{immersed volume}}{L \times \text{Midship Sectional Area}}$
product tanker	a type of tanker designed to carry refined oil products such as gasoline for motorcars, gas oil or diesel oil for industry, naphtha for petrochemical industry, aviation fuel, kerosene, etc.; this kind of tanker usually has large number of cargo tanks capable of handling several different grades of oil at the same time; also known as product carrier
proof load	the load applied to an item under controlled testing; varies from 10% to 100% in excess of the items normal load
propeller	a hub with three or more blades projected from it and secured to the aft end of the propeller shaft by key; when the shaft is rotated by engine, the blades cut the water developing a thrust that propels the ship it is designated right-handed when the propeller turns clockwise when viewed from aft, and left-handed when turning anti-clockwise the tip of the blade is the point furthest from the hub while the root is connected to the hub face of the blade is the after surface and the working surface of the blades, opposite is the back of the blade leading edge is the edge of the blade that cuts the water first when moving ahead; opposite is the following edge
propeller pitch	distance advanced by one complete rotation of the propeller if there is no slip
protecting agent	agent appointed by shipowners to protect their ships interests at times when the charterers use their own agents in ports; also known as protective agent
prow	old name for stem or bows
pulpit	guard rail round the bow of a yacht
purifier	a rotating machinery for separating two liquids of different specific gravity or solids from liquid by the use of centrifugal force; the mixture is rotated at several thousand revolutions per minute within a bowl and the heavier the fluids or solids the further away from the centre of rotation achieving separation; usually used to purify fuel oil or lubricating oil for diesel engine use
purser	officer on a ship who is in charge of accounts and stores, especially on a passenger ship.
push knee	structure mounted on the hull of a tug for pushing barges; it is designed to minimise contact damage to both vessels
push tug	a tug designed for pushing dumb barge instead of towing; advanced design may employ special mechanical locking arrangement at the bow to engage the barge quickly and efficiently
quarantine	a period of isolation of a ship coming from a port having contagious diseases to prevent the disease from spreading to the port of call
quarter deck	upper deck at the aft end
quartermaster	a senior rating who assists the officer on watch, steers the ship and keeps gangway watch; this role is now handled by able bodied seaman
ROCE (Return On Capital Employed)	this is the pretax profit divided by the capital employed. It is a measurement of the returns that a company is realising from its capital.
Registro Italiano	the Italian Classification Society or RINA for short
radar	stands for "Radio Detection and Ranging"; an electronic equipment that uses radio pulse to determine the bearing and distance to objects
rake	describes the fore and aft inclination from vertical, e.g. inclination of a funnel, mast, stem, etc.
rating	a seaman other an officer
ratlines	short lengths of rope tied horizontally between shrouds to form rope ladder; ratlines serve as foot and hand holds when going aloft
reefer	a ship which is equipped to carry refrigerated cargo as well as other cargo
register tonnage	indicates the measured total internal capacity of a vessel; used as a basis for assessing fees such as berthing at a pier, drydocking, transiting canal, etc.
rescue boat	a self-propelled, small boat designed to rescue persons in distress and to gather together the survival craft

rhumb	1. a curve on a surface of a sphere, e.g. earth, which cuts all the meridians at a constant angle other than a right angle; the curve is also known as loxodrome; 2. any point of the compass other than a cardinal point
rhumb line	any part of a rhumb as projected on a chart
rider plate	a continuous flat plate forming the top or bottom of a girder
rigging	the ropes, wires, lashings, etc. used to support and work the masts, booms and sails of a vessel
righting lever	perpendicular distance between centre of gravity, G and the imaginary vertical line passing through the centre of buoyancy, B; it causes the floating body to right itself until both centres, G and B are in line, i.e. the lever becomes zero; commonly abbreviated as GZ
ro-ro ship	a vehicle carrier which is equipped with ramps at the ends to allow vehicles to roll-on, roll-off; it is built like a multi-storey carpark
roll	describes the motion of a ship about her longitudinal axis; this causes the ship to rock from side to side; one of the six principal motions of a ship in waves compare heave, pitch, surge, sway, yaw
rose box	a perforated box fitted at the end of suction pipe to keep out material that may choke the pump; used in cargo hold bilges; also known as strum box
rubbing band	a band of resilient material fitted around the hull to protect against contact damage
rudder	a device that is used to steer a ship; a common type has a vertical fin at the stern and able to move from 35 degrees port to 35 degrees starboard; rudders are characterised by their area, aspect ratio, and shape the leading edge is at the fore edge when the ship is going ahead and at the aft edge when the ship is going astern a rudder may be balanced, semi-balanced, unbalanced or spade type
rudder post	another name for stern post, i.e. the vertical member of the stern frame where the rudder is attached to it
rudder stock	the vertical shaft that connects the rudder to the steering gear
rudder trunk	small compartment located directly below the tiller and enclosing the rudder stock coming in from the hull external
SA (Societe Anonyme)	an SA is a limited liability corporation in France. However, it is probably closer to a plc in style. Indeed in Romania, an SA company can be publicly traded. In the shipping sector, there are a considerable number of companies registered in Panama with the SA style. The SA style is common in France/Monaco, but is also used also in Belgium, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Brazil, and others.
SAS (Società in Accomandita Semplice)	this is a limited partnership in Italy.
SCS (Societe en Commandite Simple)	this is a limited partnership style used in Belgium, France, Brazil and Romania.
SNC (Societe en nom Collectif)	a general partnership in France, Italy, Romania and Spain.
SOLAS	The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea
SWATH	Small Waterplane Area Twin Hull - such design concept minimises the effect of waves on performance
Sarl (Societe a Responsabilite Limitee)	this is a private company, commonly used in France, Luxembourg and Italy, though also elsewhere.
Scotch boiler	a large diameter cylindrical boiler with three or four furnaces connected at the back end to form a combustion chamber; combustion gases coming from the individual furnace into the chamber then passes through smoke tubes to the funnel uptake; the boiler water immerses the furnaces, chambers and tubes; suitable for comparatively low pressure operation around 15 bar; for higher pressure application, water tube boiler is used; sometimes known as smoke tube boiler
Sd	sailed
Sdn Bhd (Sendirian Berhad)	a limited liability company in Malaysia.
Secured Terms	a supplier that does not sell on open credit terms, will deal on a secured basis. Secured terms include irrevocable letters of credit, cash against documents, or sight draft documents against payment. See bank guarantees.
SpA (Societa per Azioni)	this is a private limited company in Italy.
Srl (Societa a Responsabilita Limitata)	this is a limited liability company, most commonly seen in Italy, but also in Chile, Mexico, Romania and Spain (where it is described as a Sociedad Regular Colectiva).
Suezmax	a large tanker capable of transiting the Suez Canal fully loaded; the maximum draught allowed in the canal is approximately 52 feet 6 inches salt water - this is equivalent to about 150,000 deadweight
safe berth	a berth where the ship can be protected from the hazards of the sea; SB in short
safe port	any port where a ship and its cargo can be protected from the hazards of the sea as well as perils of political, natural, or other nature
safe working load	the maximum load that can be safely carried without risk of deformation or fracture and should not be exceeded; abbreviated as SWL

sagging	describes a state of a ship when she is bending downward in the middle and induces compression of the upper deck and tension of the bottom opposite of hogging
sale and purchase broker	one who acts as an intermediary between buyer and seller of ships; such broker may specialise based on the types of vessels eg tanker, bulk carrier, etc or on the market segment eg newbuildings, second-hand tonnage or demolition (scrapping); commission for his services is usually paid for by the seller
salinity	a measure of the amount of salt dissolved in the water; indicates the saltiness of the water; with fresh water set at 1000 as a reference, sea water varies about 1026 depending on locality
salinometer	an instrument for measuring the proportion of salt in a given quantity of water
saloon	mess room for officers
salvage	1. the saving of a ship, cargo or any maritime property from danger of loss or destruction at sea; 2. an award or compensation to third party for saving maritime property from danger or loss; 3. may also refer to the saved property
salvage agreement	contract on the terms and conditions of salvage services rendered to preserve maritime property from peril at sea
samson post	a strong mast which supports a derrick
saturated steam	generated steam that has the same temperature as the water from which it was formed
saveall	a receptacle or enclosure around air vent heads of oil tanks or around machinery such as windlass, winch, etc. to contain minor leakages
scantling draught	the maximum draught which meets the strength requirements; this is usually used when the draught corresponding to the freeboard computed according to the Load Line Convention is greater
scantlings	dimensions of ships structural members, eg frame, beam, girder, etc.
schooner	one type of ship with two or more masts and sets of sails
scuffing	abnormal wear of two sliding surfaces due to lubrication failure; heavy abrasion may indicate micro-welding and fracture of the high contact points of both surfaces
scupper	hole in bulwarks to allow water on deck to drain overboard
scuttle	1. small opening in a ships deck, side or compartment which can be closed by a shutter when required; 2. to make a hole in a ships bottom to sink her
sea anchor	a drag of floating construction and is so shaped as to offer maximum resistance to sea when thrown over the vessel; used when anchoring is impossible and necessary to keep vessel head to sea; also known as drogue
sea chest	small underwater compartment within the shell plating through which sea water is drawn in or discharged; the sea water may be used for cooling the machinery systems
sea dog	an informal term for old sailor
seam	joint between longitudinal edges of plates or strakes placed side by side
seaworthiness	the fitness of a ship in all respects to cope with conditions likely to encounter at sea; this includes not only her hull and equipment, but also her crew competency, sufficient stores and bunkers quantity
sextant	an instrument used for measuring altitudes and angles up to 120° to determine the position of a ship
shackle	1. a metallic U-shaped round bar with eyes at each end; a pin can either be inserted through an eye and screwed into the other eye, or goes through both eyes and locked with a nut arrangement at one end; used for connecting purposes; 2. equivalent to one length of anchor chain ie 15 fathoms
shaft	a rod or bar designed and built for transmitting rotary motion; shortened term for propeller shaft
shaft coupling	a fitting connecting two lengths of propeller shafting, for example, a rigid coupling using bolts to connect the flanges of the adjacent shafts solidly together
shaft generator	generator driven by main engines shaft through appropriate gearing during voyage to produce electric power; part of measure to reduce fuel cost
shaft horsepower	the net power available at the propeller shaft after losing some power to overcome the friction in the engine running gear, the reduction gears, thrust block or other transmission devices; thus, this is always less than the indicated horsepower, and for geared engines, this is also less than the brake horsepower; shp for short
sheave	wheel with a grooved rim in which a rope runs and changes its direction; used with block and tackle
sheer	the longitudinal upward rise of the weather deck from amidships towards the ends; this curvature increases the buoyancy at the ends and improves seagoing qualities of a ship compare camber
sheer strake	uppermost row of side shell plating; usually thicker than the other strakes below it and consider one of the important strength structure
sheet	rope used to adjust and control a sail
sheeting	pulling in the sails

shell expansion plan	drawing showing details like welding seam and butt, thickness, and framing of all plates forming the shell plating of a hull
shell landings	points on the frames where the edges of shell plating are to be situated
shell plating	the plating that forms a ships hull; this is further subdivided into side shell plating and bottom plating
ship chandler	a tradesman who assists ships in procuring, and supplies stores, food, tools, equipment, etc. to ships
shipbreaker	one who breaks up old or unserviceable ships
shipbroker	1. one whose business is ships selling and buying ie sale and purchase broker; 2. one who serves as an intermediary between a shipowner and a shipper or charterer; commission upon successful fixture or fixing of voyage charters comes from the shipowner and not from the charterer; sometimes written as ship broker
shipping of green water	describes water coming onto the deck of a ship due to ship motion
ships sweat	water droplets which condense on the ships side and deck when a ship sails from a warm place to cooler places; this is due to the warmer air in the holds coming into contact with the cooler ships structure compare cargo sweat
shipwreck	the loss or destruction of a ship at sea
shipwright	one skilled in the building and repair of vessels
shipyard	a yard or place where ships are built or repaired
shoal	1. shallow water where the ground can be seen during low tide; 2. large number of fish swimming together
shore pass	a temporary identity paper issued by immigration authority to seamen when they step out of their ships to visit a foreign port
shroud	a rope or wire that supports a mast in athwartship direction compare stay
side boy	side honours are rendered to officers, officials, and select retirees as they arrive or depart the ship; side boys when called away, fall into formation facing each other, forming a passageway near the gangway, and salute in unison while the boatswain pipes, then drop their salute smartly.
side kick	an informal term referring to the connecting rod of a diesel engine flying out of its normal running locus due to some mechanical failure and damaging the engine casing, crankcase cover or door
side shell plating	refers to the shell plating forming the port or starboard vertical skin of a ship
single screw	refers to a single propeller
single skin	of hull, the vessel is constructed without wing tanks and double bottoms enveloping the cargo tanks in the middle; usually used to describe tanker construction compare double hull
sister ship	a ship built to the same design, plan and dimensions as another
six degrees of freedom	describes the motion of a rigid body floating in waves compare heave, pitch, roll, surge, sway, yaw
skeg	deep and vertical fin fitted at the stern of barges in pairs to minimise yawing when towed astern of tug
skiff	small light boat
skipper	another name for master of a ship
skylight	opening in deck that admits light below deck; the covering fitted with glass sheet is usually hinged open to allow air to pass through in good weather
slagging	forming of hard deposits on boiler tubes or piston crowns due to high quantity of sodium and vanadium in the fuel used
slamming	pounding of the sea surface by the ships forward bottom during pitching
slewing	the turning of a jib or crane about a vertical axis compare luffing
sling	a rope or chain in the form of a loop for lifting, lowering or supporting an object
slip	1. the difference between the actual distance travelled by a ship and the theoretical distance computed by the number of revolutions and propeller pitch; see negative slip and positive slip; 2. inclined ways, sloping towards water, on which ships are built and launched; also refers to inclined ways, fitted with wheels, which can be hauled up to expose the ships bottom for repair and painting
slipway	inclined longitudinal timber support, on which a ship is built and launched, or repaired; the angle of inclination depends on the size of the ship
sloop	a single-masted sailing vessel with fore and aft rigging, a main sail and jib
slop tank	a tank in an oil tanker which is used to collect the oil and water mixtures from cargo tanks after tank washing
sludge	deposits in fuel tanks formed by the presence of wax, sand, etc. in the fuel
snubbing winch	rotating and ratcheted drum used for winding sheet
solvent	substance capable of absorbing another solid, liquid or gas to form a homogeneous mixture; usually a liquid

sounding pipe	a pipe that leads out of a compartment to deck; serves to allow a measuring tape or rod to access the compartment through it in order to find out the level of liquid in the compartment
sounding rod	a graduated weight that is attached to a line and used for measuring the depth of liquid in a compartment
spar	long round piece of timber; general term for boom, mast, yard, etc.
spar ceiling	removable strips of timbers or battens fixed to the frames in the cargo hold to keep cargo away from the ships sides; this promotes ventilation and prevents cargo damage by condensation and chafing
sparks	another name for radio officer
special survey	a thorough and complete examination, and tests at regular intervals for the renewal of classification with ships classification society; usually carried out once every five-year period with an intermediate survey held once about the half-way point
specific gravity	of a substance, is the ratio of the weight of unit volume of the substance to the weight of unit volume of water at 4oC
specific heat	the amount of heat required to raise a unit mass of a substance by a unit temperature
specific volume	amount of space occupied by a unit mass of a substance
spill pipe	overflow pipe
spinnaker	sail set forward of the forestay when wind is coming from astern or abeam
splice	1. join in a rope or cable made by interweaving the strands of both ropes; 2. to join two ends of ropes by splicing
sponson	1. outboard projection of upper deck for fitting searchlight, etc.; 2. fore and aft projection to protect paddle box
spontaneous ignition temperature	the lowest temperature at which a material will burn without the introduction of an ignition source
spout	loading arm made of pipe for delivering bulk cargo into cargo holds from shore
spreader	steel device which is used with crane or derrick to lift long or awkwardly shaped cargo safely without bending or flexing; also known as spreader beam
sprocket	any of the teeth in the rim of a wheel or drum that connects the links of a chain
squat	a condition that occurs when a moving ship goes through a sudden and marked change of trim with the stern going down rapidly and the bow moving up rapidly; the main cause of the change in trim is the magnitude of the bow wave; the squatting effect continues at a speed-length ratios from 1.2 to 1.8, the bow continues to rise and the stern levels off when the speed-length ratio reaches about 2.0 the speed-length ratio is given by $L \div V^{1/2}$
stabiliser	a device used to reduce the rolling motion of a ship; may be active type such as active fins, or passive type such as bilge keel, fixed fins or tank systems
stanchion	vertical member such as pillar or beam that supports deck, guard rails, etc
standard compass	a magnetic compass specially located to minimise the effect of magnetic influence on its accuracy; used as a principal compass for navigation
starboard	the right side of a ship when facing forward towards the bow opposite of port
statement of facts	document for recording the dates and times of a vessels arrival, and the commencement and completion of cargo operation for laytime calculation; SOF in short
static stability	the tendency of a floating body to remain upright in still water and without any disturbance
stay	a rope or wire that supports a mast in fore and aft direction to prevent mast bending; the rope is tied from mast head to deck compare shroud
steamship	a ship propelled by steam-driven engine
steerage	a certain degree of capacity by a vessel to steer her own course; lowest class of paying passengers on ships, below 3rd class or cabin passengers
steering gear	the complete machinery and arrangement which enables the steering wheel in the wheel house to control the position of the rudder; the main gear must meet certain performance requirements such as:- a) capable of putting the rudder over from 35o on one side to 35o on the other when the ship is moving ahead at maximum service speed; b) capable of putting the rudder over from 35o on one side to 30o on the other in 28 seconds at maximum service speed
stem	the foremost rigid structure which the plating of both sides of a ships hull is being attached as the hull tapers towards both fore and aft ends
stern	the after end of a ship; based on the different cross sectional shape, a ship may be described as having a counter stern, cruiser spoon stern, full cruiser stern, transom stern, etc. opposite of bow
stern post	vertical member at the stern of a ship for carrying the rudder
stern tube	a cast iron tube through which the tailshaft passes to the propeller; acts as an after bearings for the shafting and may be water or oil lubricated
stevedore	a person who loads and unloads cargo from a ship
steward	one of the crew member whose job is to serve the officers, crew, and passengers in a ship, and to clean and maintain the public and living spaces

stiff ship	a ship having a large righting moment of static stability; i.e. the vessel tends to roll swiftly from port to starboard sides due to large righting lever when its equilibrium is disturbed opposite of tender ship
stiffener	structural member in the form of angle bar, T-bar, channel, etc. that are used to reinforce side shell plating, bulkhead, etc.
storm valve	one way non-return, water discharge valve
stowage	1. space where goods can be stowed; 2. the act of stowing goods
stowage factor	volume of space in cubic feet required for stowing one ton of a named commodity; includes dunnage and packing spaces as well as broken stowage; e.g. a cargo with SF 88 will occupy 88 cubic feet per ton
stowaway	a person who hides illegally in a ship before departure to get a free passage
strain	the deformation produced by a tensile or compressive stress; measured by the change, i.e. extension or contraction, per unit length
strake	panel of plating formed by plates joined end to end and running in the ships fore and aft line
stress	deformation produced when a force is applied to a body; measured by load or force per unit section area
stringers	longitudinal strength members bridging the frames
strongback	1. a beam or spar placed in the fore and aft direction over a boat to support and slope the canvas cover such that no water may accumulate on it; 2. a plate for aligning the edges of plates to be welded together; 3. a steel bar for securing a closed door in addition to the dogs around its edges
strum box	a perforated metal box fitted around a bilge suction pipe opening to prevent debris from choking the pipe and bilge pump
stuffing box	a short sleeve with a bore in the centre through which a piston rod passes; pressure tightness between the rod and the sleeve is obtained by compressing packing or fibrous material with a retaining gland; used in machinery to prevent escape of steam or water
subdivision load line	waterline used to determine the subdivision of vessel for compliance with SOLAS ; the deepest subdivision load line is the waterline which corresponds to the greatest draught permitted by subdivision requirements
sump	well for collecting oil; generally refers to the oil reservoir in the bottom of crankcase of a diesel engine; also known as sump tank
supercargo	a person who is responsible for the proper loading and discharging of cargo
superheat	additional heat given to steam to raise its temperature with the pressure remaining constant
superheated steam	dry saturated steam that is further heated to increase its temperature at the same pressure
superheater	a bank of steel tubes placed in the path of the exhaust gases from the furnace; the waste heat in the gases is utilised to heat up the dry saturated steam flowing through the tubes at constant pressure to obtain superheated steam
superintendent	person who manages technical and/or operational aspects of ships; may be further classified into marine superintendent or technical superintendent
superstructure	any permanent structures above upper deck such as bridge, cabins, store rooms, etc.
surfactant	compound capable of reducing surface tension in liquid
surge	describes the "sliding" longitudinal motion of a ship; one of the six principal motions of a ship in waves
survey	1. to examine and inspect condition of a ships hull and machinery; 2. to take measurement and record features of seabed for charting
swash bulkhead	a bulkhead erected to reduce the swashing action of a tanks liquid content as a ship rolls and pitches at sea; the bulkhead is nontight and may run in the transverse or longitudinal direction
swash plate	1. baffle plate in a tank to reduce swashing action of a liquid - see swash bulkhead; 2. disc mounted at an angle on a revolving axis
sway	describes the "sliding" lateral, side-to-side motion of a ship; one of the six principal motions of a ship in waves compare heave, pitch, roll, surge, yaw
swell	large waves which occur in fine weather; generally due to effect of wind in the vicinity
TLS (Turk Limited Sirket)	this is a private limited company in Turkey.
Technical management	will look after the ship's maintenance and technical condition, arrange for the necessary inspections in order to keep the safety and class certificates valid, take care of repairs, arrange for the purchase of spare parts, materials, and consumables (including lubricants, chemicals, gases, etc).
Trade Creditors Turn	trade creditors divided by cost of sales, times 365 (ie the number of days a year). This expresses the average time taken to pay trade creditors during the year.
Tramping	tramp companies do not operate on fixed sailing schedules, rather they trade in all parts of the world in search of cargoes (normally bulk)
tabling	folded or tape-reinforced edge of a sail

tachometer	1. instrument for measuring velocity and giving revolution per minute as indication; 2. name given to a counter for indicating the number of propeller revolutions per minute
tack	1. the lower foremost corner of a sail; compare clew; 2. to make fast the tack of a sail; 3. indicates the wind direction relative to the sailing vessels heading, e.g. starboard tack means the wind is on starboard side
tacking	turning the vessels bow through the wind to change from one tack to the other compare gybing
tackle	arrangement such as blocks and falls to gain mechanical advantage for lifting and lowering heavy weights; also known as purchase
tailshaft	the after section of a propeller shaft that passes through the stern tube; its outboard end is tapered to take the propeller; sometimes written as tail shaft
tanker	vessel constructed to carry liquid in bulk
tanker barge	barge designed to carry oil in liquid bulk; also known as oil barge or tank barge
tare	the weight of container, packing case or wrapping; e.g. the tare of a shipping container is the weight of the container without its contents
tarpaulin	a waterproof canvas used for covering hatches and for protecting against weather
telegraph	on a ship, it is a device with a lever for transmitting and acknowledging remotely the orders for engine movements; fitted in the wheel house where the order is given during manoeuvring, the engineers in the machinery space then acknowledge the order and adjust the main engine speed accordingly; the order may vary in steps from "Dead Slow", "Slow", "Half" and "Full" Ahead or Astern
telemotor	a steering gear for the remote control of rudders position to effect steering of a ship; may be hydraulic or electric and used when the distance between the bridge and the steering unit is large; in a hydraulic system, turning of the steering wheel causes a control pressure to be transmitted by means of two small pipes to the control valves of the steering gear, which in turn moves the rudder
telescope	an optical instrument shaped like a tube for making distant objects appear bigger and nearer
telltale	a device for indicating the position of a moving object eg helm indicator showing the angular position of rudder; sometimes written as tell tale
tempering	a heat treatment process to relieve extreme hardness and toughen
tender ship	one with a small righting moment of statical stability; i.e. the vessel tends to roll gently from port to starboard sides when its equilibrium is disturbed opposite of stiff ship
thermal conductivity	property of a substance which measures its efficiency to conduct heat
thermal efficiency	of an engine, is the ratio of work done by the engine to the available heat energy in the fuel consumed; for steam reciprocating engines, this may range from 11 to 13.5 per cent while diesel engines from 35 to 41.5 per cent, according to whether waste heat boilers are used
thimble	metal ring shaped to fit into the eye of a rope end so that the ring can protect the rope against chafing or damage caused by friction
thrust block	a block designed to take the thrust of the propeller
thrust shaft	steel shaft designed with a single thrust collar between the coupling flanges; fitted immediately aft of crankshaft, one end of its coupling flange is bolted to the crankshaft and the other end to the intermediate or propeller shafting; the collar, positioned between the thrust pads in the thrust block, transmits the propeller thrust to the ships structure through the thrust block
tidal wave	sea wave of large magnitude and speed created by high winds e.g. during hurricanes rather than tidal action compare tsunami
tide tables	tables giving pre-computed times and heights of high and low tide at various selected parts of the world
tiller	a lever attached to the head of rudder for controlling the position of rudder to effect steering
ton	a measure of weight; equivalent to 2240 lb in Britain (long ton) and 2000 lb in America (known as short ton)
tonnage	size of a vessel, expressed in tons; not necessarily based on weight
tonnage deck	the deck that forms the uppermost limit when measuring tonnage; in single-deck or double-deck ships, it is the upper deck and in all other ships, it is the second deck from keel
tonne	metric unit of weight, equivalent to 1000 kilograms
tons per inch immersion	number of tons required to change the draught of the vessel by one inch at a given draught; TPI for short
topmast	a smaller mast fitted on top of a heavier lower mast to fly more sail
topside tank	upper wing tank usually used for ballast in bulk carrier
topsides	that part of a ships outer side shell plating which is above waterline
torsiograph	a graph indicating the vibratory movement of a shaft when it is vibrating torsionally
torsionmeter	an instrument for indicating the torque transmitted by a shaft; this is done by measuring the angle of twist over a calibrated length of shaft; this finding is used to calculate the shaft horsepower of a diesel engine; sometimes written as torsion meter

total loss	loss of the subject insured completely or such that the subject has been severely damaged that it becomes valueless, ie either as an actual total loss or a constructive total loss resulting in the payment of the total sum insured under the policy
towage	1. the charges for towing a vessel; 2. the act of towing
towage clause	clause in contract giving a ship permission to tow, or to be towed, under certain conditions
towing bridle	two short lengths of rope or chain forming a Y shape used for towing purposes; carried by tug, it connects tugs the towing line and the vessel being towed
trade winds	fairly constant winds that blow continuously for long periods towards the equator and then to the west
tramp	cargo ship operating without regular runs or schedules, and not limited to any particular cargo
transducer	a device producing an electrical output signal in response to an input signal which may be in the form of applied force or displacement
transhipment	transfer of cargo from one vessel to another
transom stern	stern that has a flat profile, built with athwartship plates; this reduces construction costs and increases deck area as compared with cruiser stern
transverse	at right angle to the fore and aft centreline compare longitudinal
transverse framing	system of framing or stiffening the shell of a ships hull in the port and starboard direction compare longitudinal framing
trawler	a fishing boat which catches fish by dragging a trawl net along the sea bed
tribology	science of lubrication, friction and wear when surfaces rub together; applies to the design of bearings, gears, slides, etc.
trim	indicates the difference between the forward and after draughts of a ship; when a ship is said to "trim by stern", the after end of the ship is deeper and when "trim by head", the ship is deeper in the forward end
trimaran	a boat built with three parallel hulls for greater stability
trip charter	a ship hiring contract or charter party with time charter terms despite having the voyage and expected duration specified; this reduces demurrage risk and commonly employed for fixing consecutive voyages or round voyage
tripping bracket	reinforcements in the form of flat bars or plates on deck girders, beams or stiffeners to prevent their free flanges from being deformed under compression
tsunami	large sea wave produced usually by an underwater earthquake but can also be due to volcanic eruption, landslide, explosion or meteor impact; this term is derived from Japanese word for "harbour wave" compare tidal wave
tugboat	a small boat designed for towing vessels such as barge; has great manoeuvrability and engine power; also known simply as tug
tumble home	inboard sloping of a ships sides above the designed waterline such that her breadth at deck level is less than her extreme breadth
turbine	a machine which is rotated steadily by directing high velocity steam, air or water from nozzles onto a series of blades fitted around the periphery of revolving disc; impingement of the blades one after another imparted a rotary motion to the machine; there are "impulse" and "reaction" turbine types
turbocharger	an air compressor driven by turbine powered by exhaust gases from the diesel engine; it supplies compressed air at higher pressure to the engine so that more fuel can be burnt to increase engine power
turning circle	the circle made by a ship when the rudder is put over; one of the standard manoeuvre that serves as a measure of manoeuvrability of ships; a number of parameters are used to define the turning performance, for example, diameter of the steady turning circle, turning rate, steady speed on turn, etc.
tween decker	general cargo ship with one or more decks, known as tween decks, dividing the cargo holds into lower and upper cargo spaces
twenty footer	a popular term for 20 feet long container; commonly abbreviated as TEU which stands for Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit
twin screws	twin propellers, one on each of centreline, rotate in opposite directions during operation
two-stroke cycle	the cycle of operation completes in one revolution of the crankshaft, ie air intake and compression is done on the upward stroke of the piston, and expansion and exhaust is done on the downward stroke compare four-stroke cycle
two-stroke engine	an internal combustion engine which works on two-stroke cycle, ie power is developed for alternate strokes; for the same size and number of cylinders, a two-stroke engine develops almost twice as much power as a four-stroke engine compare four-stroke engine
typhoon	violent tropical storm in the seas of Philippine Islands, Japan and China
ULCC	stands for Ultra Large Crude Carrier, ie a crude oil tanker with deadweight more than 300,000 tons
ullage	1. the quantity represented by the unoccupied space in a tank or compartment; 2. the depth of space from the tank top to the free surface of the liquid

ultrasonic test	of hatch cover system, a weathertightness test using an ultrasonic transmitter inside the hold and a detector outside the hold see chalk test, hose test
under way	not at anchor or attached to the shore or aground; commonly used to mean moving through water
underwriting	undertaking to insure a marine risk
upper deck	a continuous deck
upper explosive limit	the limit above which, the concentration of hydrocarbon gas in the air mixture is considered to be "too rich" ie insufficient air to support and propagate combustion; UEL in short
upper flammable limit	another name for upper explosive limit; UFL in short
uptake	a metal casing connecting the boiler or engine with the base of the funnel; the enclosed casing directs the flow of exhaust gases up to funnel
VLCC	stands for Very Large Crude Carrier, ie a crude oil tanker with deadweight between 200,000 and 300,000 tons
VOF (Vennootschap Onder Firma)	this is a general partnership in the Netherlands.
valve	a device for controlling flow of a fluid through an aperture; numerous designs are available for different application, for example, check valve, gate valve, globe valve, non-return valve, etc.
vane	a device with a flat surface or blade that is acted on by water or wind; may be used to indicate wind direction
vapour pressure	the pressure exerted by the vapour above the liquid at a given temperature; it is an indication of the tendency of the liquid to vaporise
vent pipe	pipe connected to top of enclosed compartment or tank to facilitate escape of air or vapour
ventilator	a device for extracting foul air from a compartment eg engine room, hold, etc and supplying fresh air to it
vernier	an auxiliary scale sliding alongside a main scale to enable reading of fractional values during measurement
vessel	a ship or boat
victuals	food and drink
viscosity	one of the properties of a liquid which measures its internal resistance to flow; the higher the viscosity, the more sluggish is the flow; when temperature rises, viscosity decreases and vice versa
viscosity index	measures the fluids change of viscosity with temperature
volt	the unit of electrical pressure; 1 volt is the electrical pressure required to force a current flow of 1 ampere through a resistance of 1 ohm
voltmeter	an instrument for measuring voltage or electromotive force (emf) of an electrical current
volume of displacement	volume of water displaced by a floating ship when expressed in cubic measurement
voyage	a journey by sea to a distant place
W/T	wireless communication
Wing in Ground	a high speed aircraft-like craft flying at a short distance above sea surface; WIG in short
Working Capital	Current assets minus current liabilities. It is a reflection of a company's liquidity. A working capital surplus is far healthier than a deficit.
Worldscale	the code name for Worldwide Tanker Nomimal Freight Scale; this system brings out bi-annually revised scales of freights based on the cost of operating a standard tanker to and from some known ports
wash port	openings in bulwarks to allow water on deck to flow overboard
water ballast	sea water taken on board to increase propeller submersion and improve stability especially during an unloaded voyage; it is usually carried in the double bottom, forepeak and aftpeak tanks
water tube boiler	one classification of steam boiler in which the water is confined to numerous steel tubes connected at their ends to steam drums and water drums; the hot gases coming from the combustion chamber are directed by baffles to pass through the water tubes nest several times before going up to the economiser and out to the atmosphere through the funnel; this design uses less water and the water tubes are capable of supporting far higher pressure than Scotch boilers
waterline	the line at a ships side formed by the surface of water at a specific draught
waterplane	horizontal section of a ships hull at a particular depth
waterplane coefficient	the ratio of the waterplane area to the rectangular area given by the ships length and breadth $CWP = \frac{\text{waterplane area}}{L \times B}$
watertight	structure built or closed so that water cannot get in or out
watertight doors	vertical or horizontal sliding steel doors operated by hydraulic or electric power either locally or remotely; for sealing openings in watertight sub-division bulkhead
watt	the unit of power and is equal to joule per second

weather deck	the deck that is exposed to sea and weather
web	the wider plate-like section of a beam or frame
web frame	a built-up transverse frame to provide additional strength; usually made up of a web plate stiffened with face plate on its edge; for several regular side frames, one web frame may be deployed to strengthen the shell plating
welding	the union of pieces of metal made liquid by heating, or by pressure or both; types of welding include arc welding, gas welding, resistance welding, friction welding, plasma welding and electron beam welding
wetted surface	the external surface of a ships hull which is in contact with the water in which she is floating
wharf	structure built along the shore where ships may berth to load or unload cargo, or for fitting and refitting ships
wharfage	1. charges paid for the use of a wharf; 2. wharf facilities in a port
wheel house	an erection for housing the steering wheel and other navigational aids; serves as the navigation centre of a ship; sometimes written as wheelhouse
whirlpool	a small area in the water where there are strong currents moving in circles; this may cause steering difficulty
whirlwind	a small, revolving wind storm that circulates rapidly around a low pressure centre
wildcat	cable lifter, or sprocket wheel, of windlass
winch	a machine for lifting and lowering cargo, and for other purposes that cannot be handled by manual power; it consists of a drum or barrel around which a rope or cable is wound to achieve either a lifting or lowering motion; the drum rotates in a horizontal axis and may be powered by steam or hydraulic motor or electric motor
wind force	wind velocity based on Beaufort wind scale
windlass	a machine for lifting and lowering anchor chain; usually has two sprocket wheels or cable lifters working in the horizontal axis; either one or both of the cable lifters can be rotated via a clutch arrangement; the machine may be powered by steam or hydraulic motor or electric motor compare capstan
without prejudice	of insurance claim, it means "no question asked"; e.g. paying a claim "without prejudice" means that although there is no strict liability under the terms of the insurance policy, the insurer may decide to pay without contention on this occasion; however, this settlement should not be used as a basis in the future when such similar claims arise
worm gear	a kind of gearing which consists of a worm engaging a worm wheel, the axes of both are at right angles to each other; the worm, being restricted by fixed bearings, can only rotate without moving in an axial direction; the screw thread on the worm engages the teeth on the worm wheel and when rotated, the worm pulls or pushes the worm wheel causing rotation; used when large speed reduction ratio is desired such as in electric winches, capstans, etc.
wreckage	1. the remains of a ship that has wrecked or damaged; 2. the goods washed ashore from a wrecked ship
yaw	describes the motion of a ship about her vertical axis; this causes the forward and aft ends of the ship to swing from left to right repeatedly; one of the six principal motions of a ship in waves compare heave, pitch, roll, surge, sway
zener barrier	an electrical safety barrier that by design, inherently limits the voltages and currents appearing in the hazardous location when faults occur on the circuit; it uses a combination of fuse, resistors and zener diodes to achieve safety
zenith	point in the celestial sphere vertically above the observer compare nadir
zephyr	a gentle warm breeze; the west wind in Mediterranean sea